



# The Mystery

## OF Carney-Croft

By JOSEPH BROWN COOKE

(Copyright, 1907, by Story-Press Corporation.)

### CHAPTER V.—Continued.

I told him of my experiences in the morning, taking care not to omit a single detail of what I had observed in my interview with either Carney or Bobbs. When I had finished he remarked, with equal brevity:

"Well, what of it?"

"That's the way with MacArdel! He can be, and usually is, the most exasperating fellow that ever lived.

"What of it?" I exclaimed. "There's a deuced lot of it, I tell you! I want to find out what this fellow is doing and get him to leave it alone. If you had ever seen his sister and could understand, as I do, the desolation of her position, you'd be as anxious as I am to reform him."

"Woman in the case, of course," murmured MacArdel softly, taking a deep puff of smoke which he held in his mouth for a moment and then blew out slowly in a long thin cloud.

This is one of the most insulting things that a man can do, and MacArdel knows it perfectly well. I was inclined to knock him down, but I think too much of him for that, so I merely said:

"No, Mac, don't be a fool, but try to listen to reason, if you can!"

"Impossible when you're talking," he observed softly.

I ignored this and continued: "My only interest in Miss Carney is that of lawyer to client and I'm not in love with her or thinking of marrying her. In the first place, I've only seen her once or twice in my life, and in the next, the difference in our financial positions, to speak of nothing else, is quite enough to put out of the question any such idea on my part."

"Cat-look-king," said MacArdel, between puffs.

"I suppose you mean by that to infer that a dog may look at a queen!" I replied testily. "but I tell you, man, it's all nonsense—utter nonsense."

"Looks bad, though!" said MacArdel, "specially when a fellow compares himself to a dog, and the lady to a queen," and he touched the bell on the little table between us."

"What's that for?" I asked. "I've got plenty of cigars here in my pocket."

"Yellow chateuse," he replied. "I think you need it."

"Now, seriously, Mac!" I resumed. "What do you think of this man Carney's virtual denial of any excesses?"

"Lie," said MacArdel.

"Well, I went on, "what do you think of the servant's behavior in practically admitting the whole business and then turning about as he did at the last moment?"

"Nother lie," he replied.

Then you think they are a pair of precious scoundrels?" I asked.

"No; damned scoundrels," he said slowly. "I think they are unless the matter can be explained in another way. But I'm not at all sure of it. That's merely the way things look now."

"Mac," I said, "you don't know as much as I do."

"That," he replied, "is the most unkind thing you ever said to me. I know things, my boy, that your philosophy never dreamed of. I have been trying to think, while you have been talking, and, in spite of you, I have thought to some purpose."

"In the first place, as I said a minute ago, I think the man is an ordinary drunkard and that this servant of his is in league with him to keep the facts from you and his family. Now, I only think this because it is the most plausible explanation that offers; I am not sure of it by any means, and I want that distinctly understood."

"In the second place, you don't know anything about it at all, and yet, in your monumental assurance, you have settled the whole thing with the exception of one detail, and you have come to me, as a physician, to supply you with that necessary link in your chain of evidence. You think he is the victim of some drug habit and you want me to tell you, from his symptoms, what drug he is using. Isn't that so?" and he blew out another of those insulting streamers of smoke.

I was forced to admit sheepishly that he was right, and my good opinion of myself faded away like the smoke of our cigars.

"Well," he continued, "the symptoms he presents could not be caused by opium, nor by cocaine, nor by hashish. Whisky is the most likely thing of all, and you have nothing but a couple of vague expressions of astonishment from him and his servant to make you search for any other solution of the problem."

"There is, however, one other thing that might be at the bottom of it all, but he could not get it here, and it would be pretty hard for him to get it anywhere. Moreover, I am not at all sure myself about it, and would have to look it up before I would venture to say anything definite on the subject."

"What is it?" I asked impatiently. "Never mind what it is, for the present," he replied. "If I am wrong in my surmise you can safely put it down to whisky, and if I am right, you are no better off, though perhaps no worse. Now, I am not going to say anything more about it to-night."

"But in the meantime what am I to do with him?" I persisted. "I may see him again or be asked for advice concerning him at any time, you know."

"Leave him to Bobbs, Ware; leave him entirely to Bobbs and let him go his own way as he will," said MacArdel earnestly. "If it's whisky, the sooner he drinks himself to death the better, and if it's the only other thing it can be, Bobbs is a veritable God-send to him and to all of you, too. Whatever you do, leave him alone yourself, for you can't do him any good and you may get into a lot of trouble if you bother with him. Let's go down and play a game of billiards."

"CHAPTER VI.

### An Anonymous Letter.

The first lot of bills that I paid for the Carney establishment contained one for two dozen bottles of Scotch whisky which had been ordered by Mr. Carney and shipped by express to Carney-Croft on the day that he and Bobbs were in my office. I made no mention of this item to Miss Carney when I was going over the accounts with her, but paid it on the chance that it was correct. In this I was not mistaken, for, although I never saw John Carney again except for an instant, I did see the identical 24 bottles, empty, of course, in the cellar at Carney-Croft.

It was more than three years after the death of the old gentleman and the stable boy, and I had gone back to the place to arrange for its opening after

reached the gates, when, as I was unlocking them with a key from the big bunch that I had brought with me, he unbent enough to say: "Don't look much like it, uster, here!"

He was quite right. The grass stood knee high on the lawns, the roadbeds and paths were choked with weeds, and the asphalted walks, leading from the front and sides of the mansion, and winding gracefully down under the trees to the river, were blanketed under the leaves and other accumulations of three long years.

The man waited until I had unlocked the front door, which swung inward with the fitful creaking of disuse, and then asked: "D'ye want me teh wait?"

"Oh, no!" I replied. "Not at all."

"All right," he returned, clucking to his horse, "I'll tell Hoskins teh save a room for ye, an' it hadn't much of a walk from here, anyhow."

"Hold on!" I shouted, as he was turning the corner. "Don't do anything of the sort! I'm going to sleep here to-night, if I can find any lights and manage to turn on the water. I don't want to sleep at Hoskins' unless I have to, but I'll be over there for breakfast in the morning."

His expression of amazement was wonderful to behold, as he pulled his horse down on its haunches to hear me through. Then, with a grin, he chuckled: "Wal, it's god dummed little sleepin' ye'll do, I'll warrant!" and he drove on up the road."

I wandered over the house, raising windows and opening shutters to let in the light and air and then, making a frugal lunch of some things I had purchased on the train for this purpose, I lighted a cigar and, drawing a chair out on the veranda, I watched the sunset far away over the river and waited for bed-time.

I had no doubt that my rustic friend's astonishment at my determination to sleep in the house was

of themselves. This holder might be very valuable to any farmer who has stubborn ewes. We would especially recommend its use in small flocks.

We saved all of our lambs last winter, which was quite a task, as they were born early in the winter when the weather was quite cold. We found that by using the holder we were born early in the winter when less work.

We make sheep holders of old fence boards, which did very well, as we find this material plenty strong, but when the lambs tried to suck they let us know that our device was not complete. We therefore resorted to iron rods, as shown in the cut and marked K and L. These are made adjustable for different sizes of sheep as shown in the cut by three rings which represent the holes which were bored through the corner posts.

We used the axles of an old children's playing wagon. These axles answered the purpose very nicely as they were just the right length. We then sawed two boards 34 inches long, marked BB in the cut. These were nailed to the inside of the corner posts. Then we attached a board across the front end with a portion marked C in the cut, sawed off so as to give plenty of room for the sheep's throat, enough to hold any of our sheep. In starting the construction we began with two boards, E and F, about 22 inches long, to which we nailed the bottom boards, which are 34 inches long. We made four posts of fence boards 26 inches long, which we attached to the bottom or floor, one on each corner, as shown in the cut. These posts being marked A in the sketch. We then proceeded with our work and attached three boards at ends on bottom, one in front and two in the rear. These we thought would make the ewe stand in proper position.

We next attached an old hinge to a board for the rear end of the holder, which we then fastened to the holder by one nail through the bottom nail hole in the hinge which allows the board or end gate to drop down out of the way. This is quite a convenience, as it is out of the way and is not liable to be broken off by a sheep running against it. This board is marked D in the cut. This door is fastened shut by a small hook which goes over the nail in the end of the door.

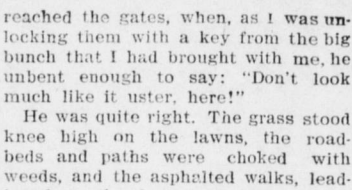
We then found that we must strap our sheep in the holder to make them secure. So we nailed straps to the boards B B, two straps to go over the sheep's back and two straps to go under the sheep's belly. These straps as shown in the sketch, are marked O N. They can be made adjustable by putting any number of holes in the straps which may be found necessary for the size of the sheep which the holder is to accommodate. Four different straps are used for this purpose, one end being securely nailed to the board on the one side and the other end being slipped over a nail, which makes it a very convenient fastening.

For making the iron rods stay in place we fastened a wooden button, as it is called, which holds the rods in their place. We then inclosed the front end by nailing boards on slantingly. This makes the holder much more rigid than it would be were the boards nailed on straight across; the boards form a very good brace in this way.

Carrots for Horses.

An addition of five or six pounds of carrots to the daily food ration of ordinary work horses will always be a benefit. They should be sliced longitudinally so that they will not stick in the animal's throat and choke him.

From all the American tests it appears fair to say that there is no marked advantage in grinding grain for healthy horses that have good teeth.



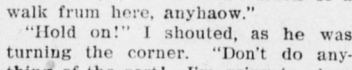
### HOLDER FOR UNRULY EWES.

Device Which Will Prove Convenient at Lambing Time.

We have a plan for making a handy farm device for the holding of unruly ewes during lambing time, which we think will be of interest to others, writes a correspondent of Prairie Farmer.

This holder is used by us for holding stubborn ewes. We had a couple of very stubborn ewes last winter which would not own their lambs. We wanted to save the lambs, as they were very fine ones and we resorted to holding the ewes, but as this took considerable of our time we devised a holder which holds a sheep far more securely than two men can by hand.

We can place a ewe securely in this holder and go about doing other chores and the lambs will take care



Rack for Nervous Ewes.

of themselves. This holder might be very valuable to any farmer who has stubborn ewes. We would especially recommend its use in small flocks.

We saved all of our lambs last winter, which was quite a task, as they were born early in the winter when the weather was quite cold. We found that by using the holder we were born early in the winter when less work.

We make sheep holders of old fence boards, which did very well, as we find this material plenty strong, but when the lambs tried to suck they let us know that our device was not complete. We therefore resorted to iron rods, as shown in the cut and marked K and L. These are made adjustable for different sizes of sheep as shown in the cut by three rings which represent the holes which were bored through the corner posts.

We used the axles of an old children's playing wagon. These axles answered the purpose very nicely as they were just the right length. We then sawed two boards 34 inches long, marked BB in the cut. These were nailed to the inside of the corner posts. Then we attached a board across the front end with a portion marked C in the cut, sawed off so as to give plenty of room for the sheep's throat, enough to hold any of our sheep. In starting the construction we began with two boards, E and F, about 22 inches long, to which we nailed the bottom boards, which are 34 inches long. We made four posts of fence boards 26 inches long, which we attached to the bottom or floor, one on each corner, as shown in the cut. These posts being marked A in the sketch. We then proceeded with our work and attached three boards at ends on bottom, one in front and two in the rear. These we thought would make the ewe stand in proper position.

We next attached an old hinge to a board for the rear end of the holder, which we then fastened to the holder by one nail through the bottom nail hole in the hinge which allows the board or end gate to drop down out of the way. This is quite a convenience, as it is out of the way and is not liable to be broken off by a sheep running against it. This board is marked D in the cut. This door is fastened shut by a small hook which goes over the nail in the end of the door.

We then found that we must strap our sheep in the holder to make them secure. So we nailed straps to the boards B B, two straps to go over the sheep's back and two straps to go under the sheep's belly. These straps as shown in the sketch, are marked O N. They can be made adjustable by putting any number of holes in the straps which may be found necessary for the size of the sheep which the holder is to accommodate. Four different straps are used for this purpose, one end being securely nailed to the board on the one side and the other end being slipped over a nail, which makes it a very convenient fastening.

For making the iron rods stay in place we fastened a wooden button, as it is called, which holds the rods in their place. We then inclosed the front end by nailing boards on slantingly. This makes the holder much more rigid than it would be were the boards nailed on straight across; the boards form a very good brace in this way.

Carrots for Horses.

An addition of five or six pounds of carrots to the daily food ration of ordinary work horses will always be a benefit. They should be sliced longitudinally so that they will not stick in the animal's throat and choke him.

From all the American tests it appears fair to say that there is no marked advantage in grinding grain for healthy horses that have good teeth.

### SEEDING COMMENCED IN WESTERN CANADA.

The Prospects for a Large Acreage to Be Sown in Wheat.

St. Paul, April 24, 1907.—Word has been received at the office of the Canadian Government in St. Paul that seeding has commenced at various points throughout Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

The heavy snowfall during the past winter has left the ground in splendid shape for successful seeding operations. The fine weather of the past few days has taken much of the frost out of the ground and during next week there will scarcely be a district in which the seeder is not being operated. The most optimistic conditions exist and in all districts the farmers are busy getting things in shape. There will be a very large acreage sown in spring wheat, oats and barley. At many points throughout the three provinces the newcomers are busy unloading their stock and effects, working night and day in order to get on their farms and become active agencies in the effort to make the year 1907 the banner year in grain producing in Western Canada. As compared with districts many hundred miles further south than this, it will be seen that Western Canada ranks amongst the first in the line of seeding operations for the present year. It is safe to say that farmers who get in their crop before the 20th or 24th of May, will receive magnificent returns. A number of those coming in this spring, who had not their land prepared last fall, will break up enough land to get in a crop of oats and barley and probably some flax. This, together with the vegetables they will plant, will give them ample food for themselves and stock during the coming summer and winter. These early seeding operations are not confined to one district, but are spread over a country 900 miles long by 400 miles in width.

The agents of the Canadian Government, located at different points throughout the United States, are busy giving information regarding the many new districts that are being made available for settlers. Low railway rates, information and literature are given on application to the agent, whose name appears in advertisement elsewhere in this paper.

### WHERE WOMAN IS SUPERIOR.

Vegetarian Springs a Few Facts on Astonished Companions.

"Since the first of the year," he said, "I haven't had a smoke, and I haven't taken a drink."

Everybody looked at him with amazement, respect and awe. How strong-willed he must be, they said; how ascetic, how spiritual! It was tremendous.

"And yet," said a pale vegetarian, "all women, or at least 99 per cent. of them, maintain this wonderful abstinence their whole life long. Why don't you praise them for it?"

With his medicated handkerchief he brushed the sneer from his lips.

"We men," he said, "beside women are hogs. We call our women silly; we won't give them the vote; but the average woman lives on a higher plane than the average man. She thinks of nobler things than money-grubbing, drink, tobacco, food.

"Did you ever hear your wife growl about the cooking? Did you ever hear of a woman epicure? No; woman is above the hoglike pleasures of the table. She is above such a tobacco and whisky seance as is now going on here."

The vegetarian put on his cap of medicated flannel, and, despite the warmth of the night, drew the flannel cartabs over his ears.

"Give woman her due," he ended. "She is a finer-fibered, a more temperate, a more spiritual creature than coarse, gross, hog-like man."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

### ALL DISTRACTIONS BARRED.

"Now that Grindle has made his pile he has joined the church."

"Wonder why he didn't join before?"

"He didn't want anything to interfere with his business."

### FRIENDS HELP

St. Paul Park Incident.

"After drinking coffee for breakfast I always felt languid and dull, having no ambition to get to my morning duties. Then in about an hour or so a weak, nervous derangement of the heart and stomach would come over me with such force I would frequently have to lie down.

"At other times I had severe headaches; stomach finally became affected and digestion so impaired that I had serious chronic dyspepsia and constipation. A lady, for many years State President of the W. C. T. U., told me she had been greatly benefited by quitting coffee and using Postum Food Coffee; she was troubled for years with asthma. She said it was no cross to quit coffee when she found she could have as delicious an article as Postum.

"Another lady, who had been troubled with chronic dyspepsia for years, found immediate relief on ceasing coffee and beginning Postum twice a day. She was wholly cured. Still another friend told me that Postum Food Coffee was a Godsend to her, her heart trouble having been relieved after leaving off coffee and taking Postum.

"So many such cases came to my notice that I concluded coffee was the cause of my trouble and I quit and took Postum. I am more than pleased to say that my days of trouble have disappeared. I am well and happy." "There's a Reason." Read "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs.



Waited for Bed-Time.

it had been closed for the greater part of that time.

John Carney had remained at Carney-Croft only long enough to have a short visit with his sister and put to rights his own personal effects, and then, accompanied by Bobbs he had departed for a tour of the world or goodness knows where. I heard from either him or Bobbs at varying intervals, and on strictly business matters, and the only way I had of addressing him was through a banking house in London which was kept fairly well informed as to his whereabouts.

Miss Weston's health improved sufficiently to permit her traveling, and she continued to reside with Miss Carney, who took a furnished apartment in town, as her brother and I had advised her to do. Later we traveled considerably abroad, and finally settled down for a protracted stay at a little village on the Mediterranean coast, in the hope of benefiting the health of Miss Weston, who, as I afterward learned, was suffering from consumption.

As I have said, more than three years had passed when I received a most unexpected communication from Miss Carney saying that she had decided to return home at once, bringing Miss Weston with her. She asked me to have Carney-Croft made ready for occupancy with as little delay as possible.

I had had no vacation that summer, and it occurred to me that, instead of attending to the matter at long range, I would go down myself for a week or two and give it my personal attention.

I arrived on a day that was almost a counterpart of the one that saw my first visit to Carney-Croft, and at the station, I was received with scant show of welcome by the man who had taken me down in his trap before and entertained me on my return journey with anecdotes of old Mr. Carney and a tale of ghosts.

"Want teh go down teh th' place, I s'pose," he grumbled.

We rode along in silence until we

ed upon the twaddle over ghosts that was begun in the village three years before, and I rather welcomed this idea, for I felt that the more prevalent it became the less likelihood would there be of undesirable prowlers about the place.

The room I chose for the night was the one I had occupied on the occasion of my former visit and, after making up my bed in true bachelor fashion, with bedding which I had no trouble in finding, I locked the house securely and slept the sleep of the just.

I awoke suddenly, startled no doubt by a ray of sunlight gleaming fairly in my face, and, finding the day so far advanced, I sprang out of bed thoroughly refreshed by my sleep and exhilarated by the crisp morning air that was blowing in through the window. As I threw back the sheet something fell to the floor; picking it up, I found a small, square envelope addressed in a cramped and totally unfamiliar hand:

Frederick Ware, Esq., Carney-Croft.

I tore it open, and my astonishment at its discovery was increased ten fold by its contents. The note read:

As you love Florence Carney and hope to make her your wife, keep her away from this place at any cost.

I read it over and over again until the letters fairly danced before my eyes, and then I suddenly awoke to the importance of finding, if possible, how it had been placed in my bed.

The window was open, to be surer, and had been open all night, but it was too far from the ground to have been reached without a ladder, and a later inspection of the ground beneath showed conclusively that no ladder had been placed under it. Moreover, the little tendrils of ivy that waved in the breeze all around the sash were absolutely uninjured, which could not have been the case if an entrance to the room had been effected in this way.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Garfield Tea, Nature's Remedy, brings relief from many ailments; it overcomes constipation, regulates the liver and kidneys, purifies the blood and clears the complexion. It is made of Herbs, and is absolutely Pure.

"Our Best Society." Governness (in Smart Set family)—Why, how loving you children are! Such affection between brother and sister is delightful to see.

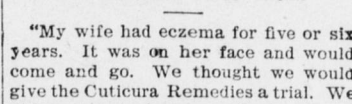
Clive—Yes'm. We're playin' grown-ups. I'm the husband an' Barbara she's the maid.—Puck.

### FAMILY'S SKIN TROUBLES.

Eczema, Heat Rash, and Scalp Affections Affect Different Members, But Cuticura Cures Them.

"My wife had eczema for five or six years. It was on her face and would come and go. We thought we would give the Cuticura Remedies a trial. We did so and she has never had a sign of eczema for four years. I myself used Cuticura Soap and Cuticura Ointment some time ago for falling hair. I now have a very heavy head of hair. We used Cuticura Remedies for our baby, who was nearly bald when young. She has very nice hair now. She is very fleshy, and we had so much trouble with heat that we would bathe her with Cuticura Soap and then apply Cuticura Ointment, it would dry the heat up so much quicker than anything else. Mr. H. B. Springaire, 323 So. Capitol Street, Iowa City, Ia., July 16, 1905, and Sept. 16, 1906."

The velocipede was invented by Drais in 1817.



DODDS' KIDNEY PILLS

CURES ALL KIDNEY DISEASES

BRIGHT'S DISEASE, GRAVEL, RHEUMATISM, NEURALGIA, MIGRAINE, HEADACHE, BACKACHE, STOMACH DYSPEPSIA, CONSTIPATION, AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE URINARY SYSTEM.

Small Pill. Small Dose. Small Price.

THE GREAT DURABILITY AND WATERPROOF QUALITIES OF THE FISH BRAND POMMEL SLICKER

Make it First Choice of the man Who Knows

EVERY GARMENT GUARANTEED

THE GREAT DURABILITY AND WATERPROOF QUALITIES OF THE FISH BRAND POMMEL SLICKER

Make it First Choice of the man Who Knows

EVERY GARMENT GUARANTEED

THE GREAT DURABILITY AND WATERPROOF QUALITIES OF THE FISH BRAND POMMEL SLICKER

Make it First Choice of the man Who Knows

EVERY GARMENT GUARANTEED

THE GREAT DURABILITY AND WATERPROOF QUALITIES OF THE FISH BRAND POMMEL SLICKER

Make it First Choice of the man Who Knows

EVERY GARMENT GUARANTEED

THE GREAT DURABILITY AND WATERPROOF QUALITIES OF THE FISH BRAND POMMEL SLICKER

Make it First Choice of the man Who Knows

EVERY GARMENT GUARANTEED

THE GREAT DURABILITY AND WATERPROOF QUALITIES OF THE FISH BRAND POMMEL SLICKER

Make it First Choice of the man Who Knows

EVERY GARMENT GUARANTEED

THE GREAT DURABILITY AND WATERPROOF QUALITIES OF THE FISH BRAND POMMEL SLICKER

Make it First Choice of the man Who Knows

EVERY GARMENT GUARANTEED

THE GREAT DURABILITY AND WATERPROOF QUALITIES OF THE FISH BRAND POMMEL SLICKER

Make it First Choice of the man Who Knows

EVERY GARMENT GUARANTEED

THE GREAT DURABILITY AND WATERPROOF QUALITIES OF THE FISH BRAND POMMEL SLICKER

Make it First Choice of the man Who Knows

EVERY GARMENT GUARANTEED

THE GREAT DURABILITY AND WATERPROOF QUALITIES OF THE FISH BRAND POMMEL SLICKER

Make it First Choice of the man Who Knows

EVERY GARMENT GUARANTEED

THE GREAT DURABILITY AND WATERPROOF QUALITIES OF THE FISH BRAND POMMEL SLICKER

Make it First Choice of the man Who Knows

EVERY GARMENT GUARANTEED

THE GREAT DURABILITY AND WATERPROOF QUALITIES OF THE FISH BRAND POMMEL SLICKER

Make it First Choice of the man Who Knows

EVERY GARMENT GUARANTEED