

The Mystery of the Red Flame

By GEORGE BARTON
Author of "The World's Greatest Military Spies and Secret Service Agents"

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THIS STARTS THE STORY

Hugh Garland, of the United States Customs Service, is assigned to discover the whereabouts of a wonderful red diamond which has been smuggled into the country in some manner unknown. To that end he accepts a position as assistant to Colonel Wharton, a collector of antiquities and gems. In the colonel's home he meets Dora Wharton, his niece, and Jules Jacquette and Victor Jayne, guests. Garland sees a man in gray clothing around the grounds, and later sees him in conversation with Victor Jayne. A visit from Doctor Henderson, a neighbor, starts a conversation about diamonds and the colonel displays the diamond.

to be placed in! What a cruel test of loyalty to love and devotion to duty! As I stood by the window watching the waters I tried to review the series of events which had brought me in my present position. I thought of my studies, of my career as an examiner in the office of the appraiser of customs and how eagerly I had followed my appointment as a special agent of the Treasury Department.

Well, I had won the appointment and here I was with my first case-study now in the face. Yet I was unhappy. Need I say why? The thought of Dora Wharton's scorn filled me with a sort of fear. I would willingly have faced death in the performance of my duty, but how could I stand the withering glance of her honest eyes? I tried to see myself from every angle, round the grounds, and later sees him in conversation with Victor Jayne. A visit from Doctor Henderson, a neighbor, starts a conversation about diamonds and the colonel displays the diamond.

What did I look like in the eyes of my friends? I was a diligent servant of the government. They felt sure that I would do my duty under any and all circumstances. They constantly dwelt upon my fine sense of honor and upon the depths of my loyalty to my superiors. This was the strain in which they talked about me. And I knew that he had killed Colonel Pressad with the same motives.

How would I look in the eyes of Colonel Wharton and Dora and Aunt Sarah? At times in the hope of finding some extenuating circumstances in my present plight.

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There was only one thing for me to do and that was to return to my room. If my mind had been filled with perplexities in the beginning of the evening I was more so now. I looked the door and began to address slowly and with my mind on what I had seen in the living-room. I conjured up a dozen reasons for Dora Wharton's appearance at the hour and under those circumstances, but none of them satisfied me. Was it not possible that she might have overlooked some little trinket and gone down to the safe to get it before retiring? Yes, but it was not probable. Why should she creep downstairs in her bare feet like a thief in the night? Finally I made up my mind to go to the bed and tried to sleep.

But sleep did not seem to be for me. I tossed and rolled and twisted the pillows into all conceivable shapes. Once I felt like getting up and trying a book, but I knew perfectly well that I could not read under the circumstances. Finally I fell into a sort of stupor, but was still not asleep. While in that state I thought I heard a pistol shot in the distance. Was I awake or was I asleep at the time? Was it a dream or a reality? I do not know. I dropped off into a troubled slumber.

More Mystery

I AWOKO next morning and found the sun shining in the window of my bedroom. Ordinarily that is the augury of a cheerful day, but the weight of misgiving that lay on my heart made me anything but a happy man. No one to look at me, no one to come out to see me, no one to help me to get up, no one to help me to get dressed, no one to help me to get ready for the day. I lay in bed, wondering what had happened during the night. I tried to remember the events of the night, but my mind was too foggy to do so. I felt as if I had been through a nightmare, but I could not remember any of the details. I felt as if I had been through a nightmare, but I could not remember any of the details.

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AND HERE IT IS CONTINUED

Behind Great Hercules

I WAS in a position where I could see her face distinctly and I saw it turn pale. There was a look of anguish in her black eyes and she gave every evidence of a woman in deep distress. I yearned to go over to her and take her into my arms and to beg her to confide in me. But that was obviously out of the question. While I looked I heard the group of men breaking up preparatory to retiring for the night. There was nothing left for me except to do likewise. In going toward the stairway I passed near where Dora was standing. The note was crushed between her clenched fingers. As she approached she hastily thrust it into the bosom of her dress and held out her hand to me.

"Good night," she said in a low, weak voice. "I'm glad we have you with us."

I passed up the stairway slowly, and as I reached the second landing I glanced back. She was still standing there with a look of unutterable sorrow in her black eyes. I reached my room feeling very miserable.

What was in that letter to cause her so much grief?

Where had it come from at that unusual hour?

My harassed brain refused to answer either question.

I was in no mood for sleep, so I sat by the west window gazing absently at the waters of the Delaware river and looking over the grounds surrounding Hedgeswater House. The windows were so situated that I could see the one as readily as the other. The moon was under a cloud and the water of the river looked dark and dingy. The grounds about the house seemed desolate. There was a still breeze blowing and the dead leaves rustled about the walks with a sound that matched the sadness in my heart.

How was I to face the ordeal of the morrow? Barnes would come to see me and give me further instructions concerning the Red Diamond. Suppose he should order me to confiscate it in the name of the United States Government? Worse still, suppose he should instruct me to take Colonel Wharton's corpse today on the charge of smuggling? How would I appear in the eyes of Dora Wharton?

Surely she would despise me. But my duty? Ah, I knew my duty. To perform my duty, to win the temporary approbation of the department, and, in doing so, to lose life-long happiness. What a predicament for a man!

Some one was preparing to open the safe and steal the Red Diamond. I determined that it was my duty to get up. In less than ten minutes I had dressed and was ready to go. I took my revolver and my pocket watch and started for the living-room. I was about to knock on the door when I heard a faint sound as if some one had just moved. I opened the door and looked in. The woman was in her bare feet and she tiptoed and moved with provoking slowness, pausing every now and then to look at the door. Presently she reached her destination, and placing the candle on the top of the safe stepped down and began to rummage in a small box on the keys. The room was darkening fast. Suddenly there came a puff of wind from where I could not guess—and extinguished the candle.

"Oh!" came the half-suppressed cry from the woman, and then all was silence.

I never moved. The silence continued for a long while and then I heard the scratching of a match and the light of a candle. The woman looked around nervously before resuming operations. Seeing no one, she began turning the knob of the door and, as she did so, she heard the scratching of a match and the light of a candle. The woman looked around nervously before resuming operations. Seeing no one, she began turning the knob of the door and, as she did so, she heard the scratching of a match and the light of a candle.

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DREAMLAND ADVENTURES
BY DADDY
"The Magic Circle"

(Billy, Peggy and their schoolmates who have been turned into monkeys by Rollo's Dream Stick seek the Magic Circle through which lies their way home. By accident the Dream Stick touches Mrs. Great Brown Dragon, turning her into a parrot. She orders the parrots and parakeets to wear on the monkeys.)

The Howling Monkey

PARROTS and parakeets didn't seem very dangerous foes after facing the Jaguar and the Great Brown Dragon. Billy, Peggy and Smiling Teacher didn't understand why Rollo and Leaping-Light should flee in such alarm. To them the coming of the parrots and parakeets was more beautiful than beautiful.

From all directions the birds flocked at the call of Mrs. Great Brown Dragon, who had been changed by the dream stick from a snake into a parrot. They filled the jungle with flashing colors, red, green, and yellow.

"What lovely birds," chattered Peggy in her monkey-talk. "Now we shall be safe for I am Princess Birdland. When I tell them who I am, they will help us find the Magic Circle."

But Peggy quickly found that she could not tell the parrots and parakeets who she was. They were making so much noise squawking and screeching that their clamor filled the jungle.

Above and below them and all around fluttered the birds. At first they only squawked and screeched, as if seeking to scare the monkeys. But when the snake-turned-into-a-parrot urged them to attack some of the bolder birds dashed forward and took flying bids at Peggy and Billy.

"Awk-awk! Eat the strangers up!" screeched the snake-turned-into-a-parrot. And then Peggy, Billy and Smiling Teacher saw why Rollo and Leaping-Light had fled so swiftly. The beaks of the parrots were sharp and cruel. Their flying bids hurt.

"Come!" cried Billy, and away he raced with Peggy and Smiling Teacher. The parrots and parakeets sped after them, pecking with snapping beaks and striking with flapping wings. In such a queer fight a small monkey band didn't have a chance.

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DOROTHY DARNIT—It Wasn't a Watch—It Was a Managerie

WHAT TIME IS IT?
MY WATCH AIN'T BEEN GOIN' FOR A WEEK

LET'S SEET MAYBE I CAN FIX IT

HERE—BE CAREFUL DON'T DROP IT

OH LOOK WHAT COME OUT OF THE BACK OF IT

NO WONDER IT WON'T RUN

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THE ENGINEERS DEAD

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THE DAILY NOVELETTE
TRIFLING WITH FATE
By GRACE WEATHERBY

AS THE last sweet note died away there was a dead silence in the room. Molly Phelps sat very still at the piano, her hands lying listless on the keys. The room was darkening fast. Suddenly there came a puff of wind from where I could not guess—and extinguished the candle.

"Oh!" came the half-suppressed cry from the woman, and then all was silence.

I never moved. The silence continued for a long while and then I heard the scratching of a match and the light of a candle. The woman looked around nervously before resuming operations. Seeing no one, she began turning the knob of the door and, as she did so, she heard the scratching of a match and the light of a candle.

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I never moved. The silence continued for a long while and then I heard the scratching of a match and the light of a candle. The woman looked around nervously before resuming operations. Seeing no one, she began turning the knob of the door and, as she did so, she heard the scratching of a match and the light of a candle.

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THE DAILY NOVELETTE
TRIFLING WITH FATE
By GRACE WEATHERBY

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COLLINGSWOOD PLANS HALLOWEEN PAGEANT

Neighboring Towns Represented in Hundreds of Entries for Prize Turnout

Already hundreds of entries have been filed for the big Halloween pageant to be held in Collingswood, N. J., Friday night by the Chamber of Commerce.

With the present outlook the affair will be one of the most successful of the kind ever attempted in South Jersey. Between fifty and sixty prizes—ranging from \$25 in gold to orders on the various business houses for merchandise—have been offered by the committee of the chamber. As a consequence a large number of entries have been received from Haddonfield, West-lyn, Haddon Heights, Audubon, Oaklyn, Woodlynne, Merchantville and other nearby towns as well as some from Camden.

The committee has arranged to have the pageant in two sections—one for juveniles and the other for adults. The parade will start from Haddon avenue and Crestmont Terrace and march southward through the town, past the bank building where the Chamber of Commerce headquarters are.

At various points along the route judges whose names are being kept secret, will be stationed. Each participant will wear a number on his or her costume and the judges' decisions will be made by these numbers. At the close of the pageant they will meet at the chamber rooms where the final decisions will be made. The awards will be made immediately afterward on the bank steps. One of the features will be the Home Band which will appear in new uniforms.

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Velour, Derby and soft-finished styles and latest styles and re-trimmed equal to new

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laid or done up; excellent work

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Hanna, S. E. Cor. 13th & Sansom

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Don't be handicapped in business, school or society by stammering, stuttering or halting in your speech. You can overcome any defects by proper and new corrective course starts Monday. No. 21, afternoon and evening classes. Call or come today for particulars.

Y.M.C.A.

Central Branch, 1421 Arch Street

SPECIAL

For 10 Days Only WILL FURNISH 6-Room House With Lighting Fixtures for \$49.50

We can serve you promptly! Visit our show rooms and be convinced of the remarkable value. Phone Walnut 3330 125 NORTH 10TH STREET Open Sat. Until 6 P. M.

Globe Lighting Fixture Co.

ROMANTIC PUBLICITY SOON

Foley Says "Ads" Will Rival Films in Heart Interest

Human interest and the thrill of romance and adventure in the future will be found in but one place in the newspapers, on the classified advertising pages, Richard A. Foley, former president of the Poor Richard Club, last night told 200 members of the Philadelphia Real Estate Board at a dinner in the Adelphi Hotel.

Mr. Foley said advertisers are rapidly learning the value of human interest, and he predicted that the advertisements will eventually rival the "movies" in holding general interest.

BENEFICIAL LOANS

At Legal Rates on Household Furniture, Real Estate and Endorsed Note. Call, Write or Phone Walnut 1175

BENEFICIAL LOAN SOCIETY

Licensed Money Lenders Liberty Building (10th Floor) N. E. Cor. Broad & Chestnut Sts. Licensed by State Building Commissioner, Member of Chamber of Commerce, Member Board of Trade, Member Local Reform Bureau— Incorporated to Eliminate the Loan Shark Evil

Seeley's Adjusto Rupture Pad

Increases efficiency of a truss 50%

Thumb Screw Regulator. Patent Awarded 1917

GREATEST RUPTURE RETAINER

The self-adjusting features of this Pad makes it easy to wear, and the Thumb Screw Regulator allows of altering pressure. Most ruptured trusses wear worse because trusses that second night begin to pinch and cause soreness. Seeley's Adjusto Rupture Pad—Improves appliances and advances methods insure improvement for every case and cure many.

I. B. SEELEY, 1027 Walnut St.
Cut out and keep for reference.

Elgin Six

Power Plant

The power plant is obviously the most vital unit in the mechanical make-up of a motor car. Every other part contributing to a car's performance depends upon the engine's ability to deliver power as needed.

Immediate Deliveries

2-Pass. Touring \$1485
4-Pass. Victory Roadster 1585
2-Pass. Sedan 2450

Dealer Territory Available

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Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9:30 to 5:30

2126 Market Street (at 10th St.)
St. Bartholomew's Churches

CANOPIES TO HIRE

For Weddings, Receptions, Fetes, Etc.

On short notice, for 1000 or more. First-class stock, complete with carpet, lights and attendants. Reasonable rates.

A. Smith & Son, 37 N. 6th St.

Send for Circular Describing the NINE REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD HAVE A PEARCE TOP ON YOUR GAS RANGE

Patented and manufactured by **W. H. PEARCE & CO.** 41 SOUTH SECOND ST. Bell Phone, Lombard 4143

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The same soothing, healing properties that make Resinol Ointment so effective for many skin troubles, also make it an ideal household remedy for Burns Wounds Chafings Rashes Cuts Sore Irritations Cold-sores and a score of other troubles which constantly arise in every home, especially where there are children. That is why you should keep Resinol Ointment ready for instant use.

Sold by all druggists, prescribed by doctors.

"Anglmesh" Guards

Approved for Belts and Gears Measured, Made and Erected by

Co-Operative Safeguarding Co.

636-640 E. State St. Trenton, N. J.

Guaranteed to Meet With Approval of State Dept. of Labor & Industry

Estimates Furnished Phila. Safety Engineer P. O. Box 294

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Many large industrial and public service companies, who own coal mines to insure their fuel supply, are turning to centralized management.

Rapidly rising costs and unstable labor conditions make coal mining a difficult problem. More than ever it is advisable to transfer the responsibility to an organization geared to do the work.

The Peabody Coal Company, through the great breadth of their operations, offers such a service.

Let us advise with you in your coal problems.

PEABODY COAL CO. CHICAGO

Advance Motor Sales Corporation

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BOOKS FOR fraction of your COLLEGE book allowance STUDENTS you can buy here all the books you will need during the college year, covering every subject you're going to specialize in. These are "used" books, to be sure; but they are practically as good as new. And what you save by purchasing them here will go a long way toward paying for that "frat" pin you hope to