THE PATTON COURIER



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SYNOPSIS

Sam Stanley, wealthy owner of the Desert Moon ranch, informs his housekeeper, Mary Magin, who tells the story, that his forwho tells the story, that his for-mer wife's twin daughters, Dan-lelle and Gabrielle, are coming to 'he ranch to live, their mother-being dead and their father, Daniel Canneziano, who had been the cause of Sam's divorc-ing his wife, in the penitentlary. Sam has adopted a boy, John, now grown to manhood, and a girl, Martha, twenty-one, physi-cally healthy but weak-minded. Mrs. Ollie Ricker, Martha's nurse, lives with them. Hubert Hand, a wanderer, and Chadwick Caufield, John's wartime buddy. Caufield, John's wartime buddy, are the other members of the household.

CHAPTER II—Continued

Until after he came, 1 had not real ized how little real laughing any of us had done. We had been happy enough, and content; but we had never been much amused. He amused us. He made us laugh. He took the mechanical player off the old grand plano, and played it as we had never before heard it played. He spoke pieces and sang funny songs until we held our sides with laughing. He was a ventriloquist, and a mimic besides. He could imitate all of our voices to a T.

Martha adored him. He played with her by the hour. He made two dolls, Mike and Pat, for her, and he would let them sit on her knees while he made them talk for her.

At the end of November, when he began to talk about leaving, Sam offered him a hundred and fifty a month to stay on. He said, like Hu bert Hand had said, "What for?" 'For living," Sam said.

Chad laughed and shook his head. "Double it, then," Sam urged. "I wouldn't have you leave the placand Martha, for three hundred a month; so why shouldn't I pay it to have you stay?"

Chad never would take any regular money from Sam. But he stayed on. He called himself the "Perpetual Sam's, made me remember that she Guest-P. G." for short, but some of the others said it stood for "Pollyanna any laughing when we had met. Dan Gush" and called him "Polly" to twit ny had only smiled. So, if that laugh him. Pollyanna may not be literature, I don't know; but a person of that nature is most uncommonly pleasant to have around the house.

The girls got here on Friday, the eighth of May. Sam and I rode down to Rattail in the sedan to meet them and John took the small truck down to bring up their baggage.

I don't know what there is about riding in a train that turns folks haughty and supercilious: but there is something that does. A person who would be right hearty and human on his own two feet, sits in a car window and looks out at the platform people as if they were something he wanted to be careful not to step on. By the time I had passed fifty or re windows, and had reached where

new leather puttees, and his new sixteen-dollar sombrero. Ee had even gone so far as to button up the collar of his brown flannel shirt.

"He," Sam answered, beaming with pride. "is my boy, John." "How thrilling!" chirped Gabrielle.

him.

tail

laugh."

important.

trilled it full of meaning.

gazing into each other's eyes.

CHAPTER III

The Secret

nd cinictor

now, richer, that it was Gaby's. "Stop being sure, and try being sensible. We must find it. We have very little "It is like living in a cinema, isn't it, Danny?" And off she went, sort of skipping along the tracks, to meet time. How do you know whether he could have brought 't into the house

or not? There is a back stairway." When they met, John gave her about the same attention that a pas-Fool that I was, I kept right on gosenger gives the ticket chopper at the ing up the stairs. It took me a while gate, in a city depot, when he sees to develop the poll-prying, eavesdropping, sneaking, and generally the train he is trying to catch moving slowly out through the yards. He pulled off his hat with a bow, but he despicable character that I did develop later. passed her, walking very fast. I "Did you girls lose something?" I thought that he was so flustered that asked. he did not know what he was doing. Danny jumped, from being startled, He knew. He was headed straight for but Gaby never turned a hair.

Danny. He had been in the freight "Only a trinket of Dan's," she said. house since long before the train came 'Possibly she never packed it at all." in, sizing up from a safe distance the girls' arrival. Then he had came back downstairs, wracking my sneaked out the back way, up past

brain with questions. the station house, and around it and Who was the "he" who had, or back again, to give the appearance of having just that minute got into Ratmust find, and had very little time in "John," I said, when he reached which to find it. And, land's alive, Danny and me, and stopped short,

since the voice was louder and, some

what was the something? like he had just been lassoed from the I resolved to say nothing, but to rear, "this is Danielle Canneziano." watch those two girls, like a hawk, John dropped his hat in the alkali from then on. I did so. But it was three weeks before I heard anything dust, his new hat, and reached out and took both of Danny's hands in his. more at all, though I saw a great deal. Falling on his knees in front of her

It was during these three weeks would not have been much showler. that Danny and John announced their "I-" he produced, "I-I heard you engagement. My own opinion is that they got themselves engaged the first To me, it barely made sense; but five minutes they were alone together: she seemed to find it interesting and but that they had gumption enough

to wait for ten days before telling it. "Really?" she said and sort of Sam gave them his blessing. That is to say, he said that any agreement Rattail's population was beginning they wanted to make was all right to close in around us. 1 pulled at John's sleeve; but 1 declare, if a with him, if Danny was sure she would be satisfied to live on the Desert freight hadn't come along, forcing

Moon, and if they would wait a year those two to get off the tracks, they might have been standing there yet, to be married. They agreed to this, the year of waiting, reluctantly. The only people who were downright I was halfway home, riding beside Danny in the sedan, when Gabrielle's pleased with Sam's decision were Gaby and myself. I, for certain reasons of laughing out again, at some remark of my own. Gaby, because she was choosing to consider herself also in had been the only one who had done love with John.

She made no bones about her feelings. I did not do as John did, and was what had put John clear off his set all of her open advances toward head, he had picked the wrong twin. him down to sister-in-lawly affection. Still. I didn't believe that she really thought she was in love with John, until I hid in the clothes closet that

evening and heard Danny and her talking together. The first minute I heard that the Gaby's actions, that evening, toward Canneziano girls were couning to the John had been so downright disgust Desert Moon, I questioned my self as ing, sitting on the arm of his chair and trying to coas him out of the

to what reason any Canneziano ever had for coming to the ranch, or for house to see the mountains by moonwriting to the ranch. The answer light, and hanging herself around his was, to get money. 1 tried to think neck when they danced together, and so on, that I had a notion Danny that they would stay a few months, long enough to put themselves in might have a little conversation ready Sam's good graces, ask him for a tidy for her when she could get her alone. sum, and leave. But they had not I had waited about ten minutes been on the place two days before I when I heard the door of Gaby's room knew that there was something far open. I was so tickled I all but squealed, when I heard that Danny less simple, something, probably,

ing Martha, though she had not dared place, he never could have gotten it "You won't do that. You can't harm do it when Sam was present. into the house without being seen." me without harming yourself. But, if "You are too sure of everything, you threaten that, just once more, I One of Gaby's pleasant little ways was to refer to Martha as an idiot, when you are unsure of anything," will go straight to John and tell him right before her face. the other girl answered, and I thought, the truth-"

"La-la !" Gaby exclaimed one eve-ning, when Martha was wa_dering "You promised-" "I haven't broken my promise. I about. sha'n't, if you don't. But you must know that I haven't any interest left Can't you make her keep still, Mrs.

Ricker?" in the thing." "What about your desire for re since Mrs. Ricker, as usual, said nothvenge?"

ing. "You leave her alone, and stop "That desire was yours, not mine. talking like that, Miss." never considered that side of it at

"Coward! Quitter! Stool-pigeon-" "That isn't fair, Gaby. I'll help if I can. I have been helping, haven't I? I won't hinder in any way. But the time is short now. Remember that."

"Danny-" There was a new tone in Gaby's voice, sweet like, and appealing. I did not trust it for a min I gave them the trunk drawer and ute; but I think Danny did, for she answered, gently, "Yes, dear?"

"Forgive me. Let's be twinny again. Friends?" I could hear the treachery who had not, gotten something into in that as plainly as I could hear the the house? The something that they words. I think Danny did not hear it, for she answered, "I do want to be friends. Gaby. I do, truly. Onlyplease, dear, won't you leave my man alone?"

"And you'll help me. And you won't tell him-anything?" "Of course I won't tell, Gaby. It is

really your secret, now; not mine. And I'll help you all I can."

Revenge. Out of all that crazy conversation the one word kept pester-ing me like a leaking faucet. Did people revenge other people, or have revenge on them, or-what? I looked it up in the dictionary. "Milicious injuring in return for an injury or offense received."

I got a piece of paper and wrote There Were the Girls, Everlastingly it down. "The Canneziano girls want to injure, maliciously, some one on the Desert Moon ranch, in return for she walked over close to Gaby, "If an injury or an offense received." you'll give me the gold monkey. I'll be good then, for always." crossed out "The Canneziano girls," and wrote, "Gabrielle Canneziano," since Danny had said that she had gold monkey, about the size of a large never considered that side of it at almond, with jade eyes. The minute all. It did not help any. It did not Martha had seen it she had begun to make sense

Since Sam and I were the only peo-ple on the ranch they had known beto her: would not so much as allow her to wear it for a few hours at a fore they came here this time, it time. As usual, this evening, she reseemed as if they had come to injure, fused to let Martha touch it. maliciously, one of us. I had never done either of them a mite of harm threatened. in my life. Sam had never done anything but good for them. Of course, Sam uad not been very gentle with the start, Martha had loved Danny; but she could not tell them apart. It their father. But, as I took pains to seemed incredible that even Martha discover, neither of them had any kind feelings for their father. Both could be confused about the two girls; because, if ever girls were opposites, of them laid their mother's death at those girls were. Their faces, just Canneziano's door. They thought that their faces, did look alike. They both his cruelty and his neglect had killed had large brown eyes, straight noses, small mouths, pointed chins, and comher. It was senseless to suppose that they were harboring a grudge against Sam for anything that he had ever done to Canneziano.

The Desert Moon was like a threering circus during the months of May and June. There were the girls, everlastingly searching for something: leaving the house shortly after the men left it, each morning; returning, tired out, just in time for dinner; off from her forehead, and put varnish again for the afternoon, and coming home just in time to pretty up for supper. After a while, I began to lose interest in that; and, being a woman, I allowed my attention to become distracted by the center ring where all pearing, too defiant of paper patterns the love interest was going on. Most of my attention I gave to the clown in the ring,-to Chad. I cannot explain it, now or ever; but Chad, from the very first, was wasn't attached to, his carryings on head over heels in love with Gaby. He had no more chance of winning her, penniless, funny, kind little fellow that he was, than an amateur has of riding an outlaw pony. with white coming into his hair at She never gave him two looks. He his temples! ouldn't even make her laugh with his To this day I have never underjokes and his songs, as he could the rest of us. But he followed her about. Gaby was in love with John. Hubert and waited on her. He brought her Hand was in love with Hubert Hand. pony up to the house, instead of allowing one of the outfit to do it. He seemed to think that calling it "neckbrought her desert flowers, which she ing" made it respectable. It wasn't tossed away to wither. And Martha a flirtation, with them. It was more was half mad with jealousy. Right at first. I think that some of fighting for something they did not the others thought that Martha's want. A perfectly footless, none too jealousy was something of a joke. I wholesome performance. never did think so. Before long we (TO BE CONTINUED)

all began to feel that it was move than a little serious. Sam talked to Chad, and to Gaby about it. Chad Flaming Worker did the best he could, after that, to be as attentive to Martha as he had Leaps in Barrel Tuxedo, Md .- Transferred inbeen before; but if he so much as to a human pillar of fire when opened a door for Gaby, Martha would go into temper fits, and sulking spells. As for Gaby, Sam's talk with her

made things worse. She had never noticed Chad at all, so she had not

noticed that Martha was fealous of

him. She welcomed the news as an-other tool she could use to tease and

corment the poor girl. All along she

had delighted in teasing and torment-

"I'm not harming anyone, now,"

might. I'd like to 1 won't, though,'

Searching for Something.

a bucket of gasoline exploded, William H. Queen, colored, twenty, of this place, saved his own life by leaping into a barrel of water. He was seriously burned. Queen was cleaning an auto-

mobile motor with a wire brush and a bucket of gasoline in a lumber yard at Nineteenth street and Benning road northeast. The brush, scraping the metal, sent forth sparks, which ignited the gasoline.

The youth's clothing immediately went up in flames, but Queen had the presence of "The idiot gets on my nerves. mind to leap into a barrel of water nearby. Queen was tak-en to Casualty hospital and "She isn't harming anyone," I said, treated by Dr. J. Rogers Young for serious burns about the arms, back and body. A small fire developed and was confined to lumber.

Martha piped up. "But some day I õooooooooooooooooooooooooooo

FINDING OF BONES SOLVES MYSTERY

Case Had Puzzled Police for Seven Years.

Winnipeg, Man .- With the discovery of a man's skeleton at Paradise Hill, near Turtleford, Sask., by a farmer's wife, a seven-year-old murder mystery has been solved and the disappearance of the alleged slayer cleared up by the Northwest Mounted police.

A jury brought in a verdict that the bones were those of Charles Taylor, for whom a nation-wide search was carried on in the fall of 1922 following the murder of Taylor's cousin. Charles Currie, bachelor homesteader of Paradise Hill. Currie was found dead outside his shack with two shotgun wounds in his body.

The coroner's jury further decided that Taylor, who disappeared immedi-ately after the murder, had met his death by his own hand.

Police authorities in Canada and the United States searched for Taylor and the mystery might never have been solved but for the discovery of the skeleton by Mrs. Frank Klein, who came upon it while picking berries 200 yards from her home. She discovered the skull and notified Royal Canadian Northwest Mounted police. Constable It was a bracelet charm of Gaby's, a Streeton found the complete skeleton, a watch, a ruby set gold ring, some coins, fragments of cothing, and a large butcher knife. beg for it. Gaby would not give it

The clothing, the watch, and ring were definitely identified as Taylor's. At the inquest Mrs. John Dahl of Paradise Hill said she had known Taylor when he worked for her husband. "Yes, and you'll be sorry," Martha She added that the man had tried to mit suicide and that he had begged Just as she had hated Gaby from her husband to kill him.

"Murder" Fails as Way of Getting Divorce

Berlin.-Herr Landwehr and his wife found a brief experience of marital felicity more than sufficient. But their effort to regain freedom has plexions the color of real light cara- ended disastrously.

The couple live at Premnitz, in the mel frosting. Danny's cheeks showed a faint pink, coming and going. Gaby province of Brandenburg. The huspainted her cheekbones, clear back to band is only twenty-three and the wife They both had wavy, dark brown hair,





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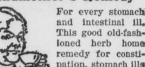


HOXSIE'S CROUP REMEDY KELLS CO., NEWBURGH, N. Y.

Practically Nothing "How many in your family, mum?" "I have six children but they are all girls. It's a light wash."-Louis ville Courier-Journal.

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CALIFORNIA



THE FE

FROSTY

MORNIN

the girls were standing, I was so heated up I couldn't find a word to say but, "Pleased to meet you," which Moon. was not the truth.

One of them smiled real sweet, and said, "Mary! Upon my soul you haven't changed at all in sixteen years," and made as if to kiss me; which I did at once.

The other one gave me a jerky nod. and stood there. watching the train pull out, until Sam, who had been poking along behind me, managed to catch up.

"Uncle Sam," she exclaimed, laughing and standing on tiptoe, and putting her hands on his shoulders, and tipping her pointed chin up to him. "you dear, to have us! I had always remembered that you were the biggest man in the world, and now I see that I was right about it."

Sam didn't kiss her, as she had expected him to. He patted her hands. took them down off his shoulders and held them a minute before he dropped them and reached to shake hands with the twin who had kiszed me.

"Well, now," he said, "this is sure great. Little girls all grown up to ladies, and coming to see their old uncle." (Ile had bitten on that uncle bait, though he was no more their uncle than I was.) "Which of you is which, now's Let's get you sorted out, so I can call you by name. used to get you all mixed up, when you were little tykes-couldn't tell one from the other."

"You won't have that trouble any more." said the one who had nodded at me. "I am Gabrielle, and that prim little puss is Danielle. People never get confused about us any longer.

The population of Rattail had come running to the depot, of course, when the train stopped; and, at last, swaggering his way among males, females, Indians. cowpunchers, and dogs, here came John "La-la !" exclaimed Gabrielle, when

she caught sight of him. "Who is this preturesque man thing coming toward us?"

John did look pretty fine, wearing his new contaroy suit, and his shining

had come in with her, instead of goof this visit of theirs to the Desert ing on down the hall to her own room Evidently they had begun their con-

On the evening of their arrival the versation in the hall, for Gaby's first girls had unpacked their trunks in their bedrooms. The next morning

words were, "jealous, my dear Dan?" "I don't know. But it is silly for you to act as you do. John is in love with me. Why should you try to take him away from me, when you don't want him yourself?"

"Are you sure of that?" "Yes, I am. His good looks fascinate you, and so does his unsophistication. You'd like the fortune he is to

inherit. But you would never be satisfied to marry him and live right here for the remainder of your life." "No, I would not. I'd marry him, if he didn't have a penny-it is you who are always thinking about his fortune

-but I wouldn't allow him to bury himself, and his beauty, and charm in this Godforsaken country. I'd get him out into the world, and have him take his place there. With his ability and energy, and with me to help him. what a place it might be! For you to have him is-waste. Waste. You don't know auything about love. You'll never learn. 1—1 tell you I can't bear it. It isn't fair—" She began to cry, hollow sounding sobs, that seemed to catch in her throat and wrench free

from it. "I am sorry, Gaby. I love John. He means to me peace, and .ecurity. and decent living-the things I want most for my life. Why should 1 risk

Sang Funny Songs Until We Held Our it all?" Sides With Laughing. "Coward! Coward! Peace and

security! He means life to me. All the boys carried their trunks to the attic. Going through the upper hall. passion, and adventure and attain later that same morning, I saw one of the empty drawers that had fitted into ment, for him and for me. too. Do their new-fangled trunks, lying beside you think I'll stand by, and allow you

the door to the attic stairway. to have him, to bury his wonder in your peace. and smother his possibili I hate clutter. I picked it up and ties with your security and decent carried 't upstairs. I went in all living?" good faith: but I wear rubber-so.ed "I think," Danny answered, "that shoes around the house, and the stairs

are thickly carpeted; so the girls, who you will have to. John and I love each other; and we are going to keep were up there, did not hear me com ing. Just before I got to the turn in each other. You, nor anyone, can change that."

the stairs. I heard one of them say: "I am sure that there is no use in "Suppose I should tell John why we searching the house. In the first | came here?"

Baboon Formidable Foe When Incited to Fury

At night the South African baboon | or not, are equally feared by baboons. is a timorous creature, and as its sight This is somewhat strange in view of of it; full and complete. Love, and | in the dusk is far inferior to that of the circumstances that the latter can the leopard, the latter sometimes steals up to where the troop is sleep ing, makes its pounce, and escapes with a shrieking victim. But the leopard does not invariably have the best of it. There are several wellbaboon to a state of abject terror, and authenticated instances of such a night a dead snake placed in the vicinity of marauder being surrounded and torn one will drive it almost distracted. to pieces. Another enemy much dread ed by baboons inhabiting the warmer

localities is the rock-python. But there

Light Rays

are instances of even the python being destroyed by the combined fury of a portion of the light spectrum beyond troop, All snakes, whether poisonous the violet zop-

real it followed their close fitting and down to a point. But marriage is not disclosed.

Gaby brushed her hair straight back On one point only could they agree -that separation was essential. As stuff on it till it was as sleek and shin- neither could accuse the other of acing as patent leather. Gaby's clothes tual cruelty or infidelity, and as neithwere all loud colored, or seemed to er had any desire to create the necesbe-black turned gaudy when she put sary evidence, they languished chained it on-and they were all insecure ap together in despair.

Then one day smoke was seen isto be quite moral. Danny's clothes suing from their bedroom window. were as neat and quiet as a pigeon's. Neighbors broke in, to find the bed Since Hubert Hand was too selfish ablaze-and Herr Landwehr sleeping ever to love anything that his nose peacefully upon it. The apparently unpenitent wife freely acknowledged with Gaby should be classed, I think, that she had sprinkled benzine on it not in the center ring, but as the main and then set it on fire, and was arrestattraction of the third ring. And he ed for the attempted murder of her almost old enough to be her father, husband.

Now, however, she has been released and the couple are condemned again to live together. For investigation of stood those two, during those months. the crime revealed that the "murder" was planned with the assistance of the husband, it being hoped in this way Yet they hugged and kissed, and to obtain sufficient evidence for divorce proceedings.

like a fight, where each of them was New Englander, 43, Arrested 43 Times

Worcester, Mass.-George Brannigan, forty-three, saw his name written for the forty-third time in the last eighteen years in a police blotter when he was booked for attempted larceny. Brannigan was charged with having tried to take money from a register in a Front street department store. Detective Lieut. Otis H. Pineo was in the store at the time and arrested Brannigan,

Man Carries Stone in Forehead for 25 Years

Aggarp, Sweden.-Unwittingly, Hans Nilsson of this place carried a stone in his head for 25 years.

That was disclosed recently when an old scar on his head began to bleed and out came a small finely polished pebble. Nilsson now remembers that Ultra-violet is described as that in his teens he fell and received a deep cut on his forehead. He thinks the stone lodged in the wound then.

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at once distinguish between berries that are wholesome and those that are poisonous, even though they may never have seen them before. The hiss of a snake will reduce the most enraged