Woman's Missien

the time the Virgin Mether held the infant Saviour in her arms to this hour woman has been the great lover of Christ and the unwearying helper of his little ones, and the more we strengthen and illumine her, the more we add to her sublime faith and devotion the power of knowledge and culture, the more efficaciously shall she work to purify life, to make justice, temperance, chastity and love prevail.

## JENNIE BAXTER: JOURNALIST

BY ROBERT BARR

## IV.—The Search for the Girl.

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"Oh, I don't knew about that! I believe modern science enables an enameled woman to blush at will. I would not be sure of it, because it is outside of my own line of investigation, but I have understood such is the case."

"Very likely," assented Jennie. "What is that you have at the buttom of your packet?"

"That," said the detective, drawing it forth and handing it to the girl, "is her glove.

Jennie picked up the glove-which, alas, she had paid for and only worn on one occasion—and smoothed it out between her fingers. It was docketed "&-Made by Gaunt et Cie, Boulevard Hausmann; purchased in Paris by one alleging herself to be the Princess von Stein heimer."

"You have found out all about it." said Jennie as she finished reading the label.

"Yes; it is our business to do so, but the glove has not been of much assistance to us. ... How did he say he became poss

of the glove?" asked the girl innocently. "Did she give it to him?"

"No: he tore it from her hand as she was leaving him in the carriage. It thing to do, but of course it was not my business to tell Lord Donal that."

"So the glove has not been of much assistance to you! Tell me, then, what | wits." you have done, and perhaps I shall be the better able to advise you."

"We have done everything that suggested itself. We traced the alleged princess from the Hotel Bristol in Paris to Claridge's in London. I have a very clever woman in Paris who assisted me, and she found where the gloves were bought and where the dress was made. Did I read you Lord Donal's description of the lady's dostume?"

"No; never mind that. Go on with vour story."

ordered a hansom as she passed the five years." night porter and shortly after packed; off her maid in the cab.

"Her maid!" echoed Jennie. "Yes; the maid came down in ordinary dress shortly after, deeply veiled, and drove away in the hansom. The lady paid her bill next morning and not been in America for five years; so, went to the 8 o'clock Paris express, you see"with carriage and pair, coachman and flection showed me that she was not to this lady who impersonated her." likely to leave the hotel in a cab at | Jennie leaned back in her chair, midnight and allow her maid to take closed her eyes for a moment and the carriage in state next morning."

"That doesn't appear reasonable," murmured Jennie. "You made no at- I do not remember with sufficient mitempt, then, to trace the maid?"

to some place out in the country. The her for some time—say two years, or lady took a first class ticket to Paris three years, or five years, or whatever ture.'

instantaneous view of one of the boule- Chiselhurst's town house, for you must vards taken in bright sunshine. The remember there was her husband in principal figure in the foreground Jen- the background, a violent man, as you nie had no difficulty in recognizing as have said, and Lord Donal must have her own maid, dressed in that chic fash- thoroughly angered the princess by ion which Parisian women affect.

tion," said Jennie.

hack."

Jennie turned the picture over, and there under the inscription, "H-Supposed photo of the missing woman," was written in a bold hand. "Bosh! Read my description of the girl. This is evidently some Paris lady's maid."

"Well, what did you do when you got this picture back?" said Jennie. ' "I remembered you and went to the office of The Daily Bugle. This brings us to the present moment. You have

now the whole story, and I shall be very pleased to listen to any suggestions you are good enough to offer."

The girl sat where she was for a fewmoments and pondered over the situstion. The detective, resting his elbow on the table and his chin in his hand, regarded her with eager anticipation. The more Jennie thought over the matter the more she was amazed at the man before her, who seemed unable to place two and two together. He had already spoken of the account of the ball which had appeared in The Daily Bugle, of its accuracy and excellence. He knew that she was a member of The Bugle staff, yet it had never occurred to him to inquire who wrote that description. He knew also that she had been a guest at the Schloss Steinheimer when the in-



"That," said the detective, "is her glove." vitation to the ball must have reached the princess. These facts were so plainly in evidence that the girl was afraid to speak lest some chance word would form the connecting link between the detective's mind and the seemingly paipable facts. At last she looked up, the color coming and going in her cheeks, as Lord Donal had so accurately described it.

"I don't think I can be of any assistance to you in this crisis, Mr. Taylor. You have already done everything that human ingenuity can suggest."

"Yes, I have—everything that my human ingenuity can suggest. But does nothing occur to you! Have you no theory to put forward ?"

"None that would be of any practical advantage. Is Lord Donal certain that it was not the princess herself whom he met? Are you thoroughly convinced that there was really an impersonation?"

"What do you mean, Miss Baxtert" "Well, you met Prince von Steinheimer. What did you think of him?" "I thought him an overbearing buily, if you ask me. I can't imagine what English or American girls see in those foreigners to cause them to marry them. The prince was very violent-practiseemed to me not a very gentlemanly cally ordered me out of the castle, spoke to his father-in-law in the most peremptory manner, and I could easily see the princess was frightened out of her

> "A very accurate characterization of his highness, Mr. Taylor, Now, of course, the princess being a womanand a young woman-would naturally be very anxious to attend the Duchese of Chiselhurst's ball, wouldn't she?"

"One would think so." "And, as you have just said, she has a bear of a husband, a good deal older than herself, who does not in the least care for such things as the function to which the princess was invited. Is it not just possible that the princess ac-Well, Claridge's provided carriage, tually attended the ball, but, for reacoachman and footman to take her to gons of her own, desired to keep the the ball, and these returned with her fact of her presence there a secret? And some time about midnight. Now, here you must remember that Lord Donal a curious thing happened—the lady Stirling had not seen the princess for

"For five years!" said the detective sharply. "How did you learn that, Miss Baxter ?"

"Well, you know," murmured the girl, with a gasp. "that he met her last in Washington, and the princess has

"Oh, I was not aware that he had footman. Of course it struck me that met her in America at all! In fact, it might be the lady herself who had Lord Donal said nothing much about gone off in the cab, but a moment's re- the princess. All his talk had reference

breathed quickly.

"I am afraid," she said at last, "that nuteness the details you have given me "Oh, yes, we did! We found the cab- to be able to advise. I would merely man who took her from Claridge's, and suggest that Lord Donal met the prinhe left her at Charing Cross station, cess herself at the Duchess of Chiselbut there all trace of her vanishes. She hurst's ball. The princess naturally probably left on one of the late trains- would wish to mislead him regarding there are only a few after midnight— her identity, and so, if he had not met and departed alone next morning by the period may be it is quite possible the 8 o'clock continental express. My that the princess has changed greatly in assistant discovered her and took a the interval, and perhaps she was not snap shot of her as she was walking rejuctant to carry on a flirtation with down the boulevard. Here is the pie- the young man, your client. Of course she could not allow it to go further than The detective handed Miss Baxter an the outside of the door of the Duke of what you term his rudeness in tearing "She seems to answer the descript off her glove, and now the princess will never admit that she was at the ball, so "So I thought," admitted the detect- it seems to me that you are wasting ive, "and I sent the portrait to Lord your time in a wild goose chase. Why, Donal. See what he has written on the it is about to think, if there had been a real disappearing woman, that you,



facilities should not have unearthed her long ago. You said at the beginning that nothing was more difficult than to disappear. Very well, then, why have you been baffled? Simply because the princess herself attended the ball and there has been no disappearing lady at all."

The detective, with great vehemence, brought down his fist on the table.

"By Joye!" he cried. "I believe you argright. I have been completely blinded, the more so that I have the clew to the mystery right here under my own eves.

He fumbled for a moment and brought forth a letter from his pile of documents.

"Here is a note from St. Petersburg, written by Lerd Donal himself, saying the princess bad sent him the companion glove to the one you have now in your hand. He says he is sure the princess knows who her impersonator was. but that she won't tell, and, although I had read this note, it never struck me that the princess berself was the woman. Miss Baxter, you have solved the puzzle!"

"I should be glad to think so," replied the girl, rising, "and I am very happy if I have enabled you to give up a futile chase."

"It is as plain as daylight," replied the detective. "Lord Donal's description fits the princess exactly, and yet I never thought of it before.'

Jennie hurried away from the detective's effice happy in the belief that she

had not betrayed herself, although she was not blind to the fact that her escape was due more to good luck than to any presence of mind of her own, which had nearly deserted her at one or two points in the conversation. When Mr. Hardwick saw her, he asked how much space he would have to reserve for the romance in high life. But she told him there was nothing in the case, so far as she could see, to interest any sane reader.

Here matters rested for a fortnight. Then the girl received an urgent note from Cadbury Taylor, asking her to call at his office next day promptly at 4 o'clock. It was very important, he said, and he hoped she would on no account disappoint him. Jennie's first impulse was not to go, but she was so anxious to learn what progress the detective had made in the case, fearing that at last he might have got on the right track, that she felt it would be unwise to take. the risk of not seeing him. If his suspicions were really aroused, her absence might serve as an excuse to confirm them. Exactly at 4 o'clock mext afternoon she entered his office and found him, to her relief, alone. He sprang up from his table on seeing her and said in a whisper: "I am so glad you have come. I am in rather a quandary. Lord Donal Stirling is in London on a flying visit. He called here yesterday."

The girl caught her breath, but said nothing. "I explained to him the reasons I have for believing that it was actually the Princess von Steinheimer whom he met at the Duchess of Chiselhurst's ball. He laughed at me; there was no convincing him. He said that theory was more absurd than sending him the picture of a housemaid as that of the lady he had met at the ball. I used all the arguments which you had used, but he brushed them aside as of no consequence, and somehow the case did not appear to be as clear as when you

propounded your theory." "Well, what then!" asked the girl.
"Why, then I asked him to come up here at 4 o'clock and hear what an assistant of mine would say about the

C080. "At 4 o'clock!" cried the girl in terror. "Then he may be here at any moment."

"He is here now; he is in the next room. Come in, and I will introduce you, and then I want you to tell him all the circumstances which lead you to believe that it was the princess herself whom he met. I am sure you can place all the points before him so tersely that you will succeed in bringing him round to your own way of thinking. You will try, won't you, Miss Baxter! It will be a very great obligement to me."

"Ob, no, no, no!" cried the girl. "I am not going to admit to any one that I have been acting as a detective's assistant. You had no right to bring me here. I must go at once. If I had known this, I would not have come. "'

"It won't take you five minutes." pleaded Cadbury Taylor. "He is at this." moment waiting for you. I told him you would be here at 4."

"I can't help that. You had no right to make an appointment for me without my knowledge and consent." Taylor was about to speak when the

handle of the inner room turned. "I say, detective," remarked Lord. Donal in a voice of some irritation, "you should have assistants who are more punctual. I am a very busy man and must leave for St. Petersburg tonight, so I can't spend all my time in

your office, you know." "I am sure I beg your pardon, my lord, " said the detective, with great obsequiousness. "This young lady has some objections to giving her views, but I am sure you will be able to persuade her"-

He turned, but the place at his side was wacant. The door in the hall was open, and the girl had escaped as she saw the handle of the inner door turn. Taylor looked blankly at his client with dropped jaw. Lord Donal laughed.

"Your assistant seems to have disappeared as completely as the lady at the ball. Why not set your detectives on her track! Perhaps she will prove to be the person I am in search of." "I am very sorry, my lord," stam-

mered the detective. "Oh, don't mention it! I am sure you have done all that could be done with the very ineffective clews which unfortunately are our only possessions, but you are quite wrong in thinking it was the princes herself who strended the ball and I don't blame your sedents

with all your experience and all your for refusing to bolston up impossing facilities, should not have unearthed case. We will consider the search and ed, and if you will kindly let me have your bill at the Diplomatic club before 6 o'clock tonight I will send you a check. Good alternoon, Mr. Taylor,"

what the detective would think of her his influence with the board of direct big I could understand it. The sudden flight. She was convinced that, up to the moment of leaving him to abruptly, he had not the slightest suspicien that she berself, to whom he was then talking was the person he had been searching for up and down Europe. What must be think of one who. while speaking with him, suddenly, without a word of leave taking, disappeared as if the earth had opened and swallowed her, and all because the handle of the door to the inner room had turned? Then the excuse she had given for not wishing to meet Lord Donal must have struck him as ridiculously inadequate. When she reached her deak and reflected with more calmness over the situation, she found no cause to censure herself for her hasty departure. Although she had acted on sudden impulse, she saw there had been nothing else to do. Another moment and she would have been face to face with Lord Donal himself.

Next day brought a note from the detective which somewhat reassured her. He apologized for having made the appointment without her permission and explained that Lord Donal's unexpected arrival in London and his stubborn unbelief that it had been the princess herself whom he met at the ball seemingly left the detective no alternative but to call on the person who had so persistently advanced the theory, to present it bad not occurred to him at the time to think that Mise Baxter now he saw where he was wrong, etc. This note did much to convince not seen the clews which appeared to be aprend so plainly before his eyes. Cadbury Taylor, however, said nothing about the search being ended, and a few days later Jennie received a disquieting letter from the Princess von Steinheimer.

"My dear Jennie," her highness wrote, "I am sure the detectives are after you, and so I thought it best to send you a word of warning. Of course it is only surmiss on my part, but for days there has been a woman hovering about the castle, trying to get information from my servants. My maid came directly to me and told me what she knew. The woman detective had spoke to her. This inquisitive person, who had come from Paris, wished particularly to know whether I had been seen about the castle during the week in which the Duchess of Chiselburst's ball took place, and so this leads me to suppose that some one is making inquiries for you. It must be either Lord Donal Stirling or the Duke of Chiselhurst. but I rather think it is the former. Thave written an indignant letter to Lord Donal, accusing him of having caused detectives to haunt the castle. I have not yet received a reply, but Lord Donal is a truthful person, and in a day or two I expect to find out whether or not he has a hand in this business. Meanwhile, Jennie, be on your guard, and I will write you again as soon as I have something further to tell."

The reading of this letter greatly increased Jennie's fears, for she felt assured that, stupid as the men undoubtedly were, they verged so closely on the brink of discovery that they were almost certain to stumble upon the truth if the investigation were continued. "She wrote a hurrled note to the princess, imploring her to be cautious and not inadvertently give any clew that would lead to her discovery. Her letter evi-dently crossed one from the princess herself. Lord Donal had confessed, said the letter, and promised never, never to do it again. "He says that before my letter was received he had stopped the detectives, who were doing no good and apparently only annoying innocent people. He says the search is ended, as far as the detective is concerned, and that I need feer no more intrusions from inquiry agents, male or female. He apologized very handsomely, but says he has not given up hopes of finding the lady who disappeared. And now, Jennie, I hope that you will admit my cleverness. You see that I only had a word or two from my maid as a clew, but I unraveled the whole plot and at once discovered who was the instigator. of it. So I think I wouldn't make a bad detective myself. I am tremendously interested in episodes like this. I believe if I had known nothing of the impersonation and it the case, had been put in my hands I should have discovered you long ago. Can't you think of some way in which my undoubted talent for research may be made use of 1 You don't know how much I envy you in your newspaper office, always with some mystery on hand to solve. It must be like being the editor of a puzzle department. I wish you would let me help you next time you have something important to do. Will you promise!

When you write again, please send your letter to Vienna, at we are going nto residence there, my husband, having been unexpectedly called to the cap ital. He holds an important position in the government, as perhaps you remember.

Jennie was delighted to know that all inquiry had ceased, and she wrote a long letter of gratitude to the princes.
She concluded her epistle by saying:
"It is perfectly absurd of you to eavy one who has to work as hard as I. You are the person to be envied. It is not all heer and actities in a newspaper office, which is a good thing for I don't like heer and I don't knew what acts.

the in- or are But procedus you had the next time | have attinger only on white it lease to many | shall write and properties | leave the particular, and lam enter that operated. Hardwick /hat his we shall be invincible.

But one broable see of many of the law derivated that he

place to another in this life. Jennie bottom of his feet was disturbed to mitice that Mr. Hardwas quaturhed to notice that Mr. Hard— "Quies at builthe for wick was becoming more and more cost spirit in America and Hard-As Jennie rapidly hurried away from the office of Mr. Cadbury Taylor there are trivial. An advance of salary came followed by heart action for the arcee in her mind; some agitation as to her, and she knew it was through outburst that would make me ore Although Mr. Hardwick was sheep the speech indicates that the p and decisive in business matters be minister meant business at the lime proved an awkward man where his vave utterance to it. Something affections were concerned, and he often unred meanwhile to change the came and sat by the girl's dock, svideply wishing to key something and newspapers in Europe have been by a
set quite as evidently having rations to find out. We have had our regal to say, and thus the allustion became Vienna representative at work a embarrassing. Jennia was a practical since the words were nitered, and girl and had no desire to complicate the the past two weeks he has been sense tentions might be limited strictly to a that you go quietly to Vicana. I a business busis. The crisis however, not let either of the men know you has brought on by Mr. Hardwick him at work on the affair at which the self. One day when they were alone have labored with such little succession. together he said abruptly:

bury Taylor did not come to anything?" "No, Mr. Hardwick."

"Then don't you think we might enact a romance in high life in this very room? It is high enough from the street to entitle it to be called a romance in Baxter, as there flashed across her sained high life." And the editor winned un- an idea that here was a case in which easily, like an unready man who hopes Princess you Steinheimer could be to relieve a dilemma by a poor joke. the greatest assistance to ben Jennie, however, did not laugh and did not look up at him, but continued editor, "that the emperor is extremely to scribble shorthand notes on the paper

before her. "Ah, Mr. Hardwick she mid, with a sigh. "I see you have discovered my explain it to the one most intimately secret, although I hoped to concess it deed, in the situation of Ralph Rackmight object to meet Lord Donal, who straw in 'Pinafore' - I love, and love. was an entire stranger to her, but also above my station and now that you know half you may as well know. all. It arose out of that unfortunate Jennie that, after all, the detective had, ball given by the Duchage of Chisal-



Don't you think us might enges a service of the many rooms hurst, which will haven morall the rest note to the Martel of my life, I feet, and Jennie, still important was the

without looking up. Mr. Hardwick smothered an elecu- express and intimated lation and was glad that the girl's eyes matter in which she mi were not upon him. There was a panes sistance of the prince of a few moments! duration between tened to her rooms, them. He took the path that was left wrening there owners open to him fondly flatsering himself gram now remain that while he had stumbled madver her to being her bells tently upon her romance he had kept rest of her madver his own secret safe.

one own secret sets.

"I—I have no right to introde on the legal which is your confidences, lies have the said of the set of the set

will accuse me (or for the control of the control o

tennils scales ending her eye on the class of the contract of

desk before her. The man saw the color come and go colline, and probably mo in her cheeks and thought behad never thou of summity, beheld any one so entrancing. He come teheld any one so entrancing. He rose quickly without making further at tempt at explanation and left the room. See you. I want the paper one of two teardrops stained the paper one in talk Englance. One of two teardrops stained the paper one in talk Englance. I resch and German like didn't like giving pain to anyone, but to me to saving sail to me to saving sail to me to saving sail anguages well: Jot See what had happened. She made up her tongue, sail is if an out mind to leave The Daily Engle and seak will care who can take employment electronery tont next (at himself-cont in at Mr. Electronery above a no strong of the entire above at the appropriatement and spools to have write that the action is you are deappointment and sport (Charles and Sports Charles a

been reading the newspaper with any degree of attention takely?" "'Yes Mr. Hardwick" Bave you been watching the drift nor make any one

of foreign politics? "Do you refer to that speech by the prime minister of Austria a week or

Yes: that is what I have in my mind. As you know, then, it amounted England—simost, but not quite. It was a case of saying for much or or not saying enough. However, i was not followed up, and the premier age been as dumb as a graven image ever since. England has many exemies in different parts of the world but I must confess that this speech by the Austrian premier came as a surprise. There must have tapped been something hidden wrain is too yishbe from the neurale. The granica sis //a is too astrate's man not to know exactly giving TANE DE WORLD BORERT ADEL DE LA DEL GE DO CALUNCO NE LA BOY BEARING - MAINTE DE COMPANION DE LA COMPANION DE L

altuation by allowing her employer to by one of the cleverest men I come fell in love with her, yet it was important him from Landon; but, upon sible to go to him and sek that his at- late, both have falled. Now, I propose for both are good men and I do so "That romance in high life which want to discourage sither of then you were investigating with Mr. Cad- Still above all things I wish to have the solution of this mystery. So it costs corred to me last night that you might the succeed where others had failed. Whatee

do you think of it!" "I am willing to try," said Mis-

"It has been thought." went on the averse to having trouble with Bagandi or any other country. Bill, if that were the case, a new cabinet would nedouble edly have been formed after this intendi-perate address of the premier; but bing man still bridg his miles, and the beam neither explanation nor applied from court or cabinet. I am occavisced that there is something behind all this a wheal within a wheel of some seg-because the day after the speech that came a rumor from Vienna that an tempt had been made on the life of emperor or of the premier. It was a seedingly vague, but it was alleged in a dynamite explosion had taken ble a the palace. This was promptly tradicted, but we all know what contradictions amount to. There termal trouble of some kind inches Victims, and if we obtain put full details shell an article wo se a Bursopian resultables. Whe

take her to Vienna by

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