

The Mystery of an Old, Old Love Affair

By HAROLD CARTER

(© 1924, Western Newspaper Union.)

MISS AMANDA listened stonily to her niece Mary's confession of her engagement to the man she had met on her vacation at Bellmair. Sympathetically, too, for the two old maid-ladies, Miss Amanda and Miss Dorothy, were devoted to pretty Mary the child of their only brother, whom they had adopted when he lay dying. But when Mary mentioned the name of Ralph Lester an ominous look came over Miss Amanda's face.

"And he says his father knew you when you were a girl, Aunt Amanda," pursued Mary, with all the innocent confidence of twenty years.

Ralph Lester, in the city, received a despairing little note from his fiancée the following day which he could neither understand nor fathom.

The two old ladies realized Mary's sorrow and did their best to cheer her.

From timid Miss Dorothy the girl learned the cause of Miss Amanda's hostility. Miss Amanda had once been engaged to Ralph's father, Robert, who had been dead some years.

And then, one afternoon, a fair, curly-haired young fellow rang the bell at the old house door and Miss Amanda, coming to open it, found herself looking into the face of her youthful sweetheart, Robert.

"You are Mr. Lester," the old woman asked, pressing one hand against her throbbing heart.

"Yes, and you must be Miss Amanda," answered the young man. "My father often used to speak of you."

"My niece is in the garden. You are at liberty to go to see her. You are at liberty to take her away, to marry her. But let me tell you that, from the moment she becomes your wife, she shall never cross our threshold again or—" she hesitated. "I do not want to wrong you in my thoughts, Mr. Lester, but she shall never inherit a penny of my money."

The young man rose. "May I ask why, Miss Amanda?" he inquired. The memories of old days flushed the old maid's withered cheek. "Because," she answered slowly, "your father was engaged to me. He left me a few weeks before the wedding day."

She started. Mary stood at the door. She had overheard all. She stood looking at Ralph, and he saw on her face that her love had never died. He started toward her.

"Mary, are you going to let the shadow of the past generation prevent our happiness?" he asked.

The girl went softly to her aunt and placed her hands upon her shoulders. "Aunt, are you going to ruin our lives because your own was ruined?" she asked.

The old woman's face was like a mask. "As his father did to me, so shall I do to him," she answered.

"You can marry him—but my anger will never be assuaged," she answered.

Mary turned away. "You see, Ralph, it is impossible," she answered quietly.

"Is there nothing can induce you to relent, Miss Amanda?" inquired Ralph Lester quietly. The old woman saw how bravely he bore the shock, and the thought of his suffering added fuel to her ancient hatred.

"Yes," she answered. "If Robert Lester sends me a message from the dead, explaining his actions, his cruel behavior to me, then I can forgive."

Through the door came little Dorothy, leaning upon a stick. She was holding a package in her hands. She crossed the floor to where her sister stood and knelt down at her side.

"Amanda—" she began.

"It is useless to plead for him, Dorothy," answered the old woman. "You know—who should know so well as you, when Robert Lester came to woo you before he courted me?"

"And you took him from me. Was that no wrong, Amanda?" pleaded her sister.

Miss Amanda frowned impatiently. "That is between you and me, Dorothy," she answered. "If I have wronged you in that, you have never borne me the meaning of a ruined life; nor a hot pillow wet with tears for a frustrated love."

Miss Dorothy rose to her feet, and her face was ashen pale. She held out the package toward her sister. Slowly, with trembling fingers, she unfasted the ribbon which bound it, and the scent of faded perfume diffused itself through the room.

"These letters explain all," she said. Miss Amanda uttered a gasp of fear. There were half a dozen unopened letters, in faded ink, and the handwriting of them, addressed to her, was that of Robert Lester.

"This is why," said Miss Dorothy. "I was jealous of you, Amanda. I hated you with a hatred which was to yours as wine is to water. When Robert's letters came for you I hid them away. And your own letters, which you gave me to mail, I destroyed unopened. Now acquit Robert and turn your anger upon me, Amanda."

The mask had fallen from Miss Amanda's face. Her eyes were wet with tears.

"Let the past bury its dead, sister," she murmured. "I am glad you told me—told me at the last."

And the two old women wept in each other's arms. And Ralph Lester drew Mary's arm through his, and pressed his lips to hers.

PROVIDES HOME FOR CONVICTS' CHILDREN

Sophie Lyons, Former Criminal, Leaves Fund.

Detroit, Mich.—A perpetual trust fund, the proceeds of which are to be devoted to the establishment of a home for children whose parents are prison inmates, is created under the will of Sophie Lyons Burke, former international confidence woman, who died here recently. The will, discovered in a safe deposit vault, drilled open in the presence of court attendants, does not indicate the amount to be devoted to the creation of the home, but leaves the residue of Mrs. Burke's estate to that purpose after numerous bequests to relatives and friends.

In providing for the children's home, the will specifies that any child between two and four years of age, one or both of whose parents may be a prison inmate, shall be eligible to admittance to the home. Provision also was made for 375 annual subscriptions to a popular weekly periodical to be distributed among prisons throughout the country.

Mrs. Burke, who gave up a career of crime to preach observance of the law and the utility of crime, left an estate valued variously at from \$150,000 to \$300,000, mostly in Detroit real estate, where she made her fortune by investing and speculating in land.

When the safe deposit vault was opened it was found to contain besides numerous deeds and other papers, considerable jewelry knotted in the bottom of an old stocking. The jewelry was estimated to be worth \$25,000, and included one ring set with 12 diamonds, which was identified as the engagement ring given her by "Jimmy" Burke when the couple were at the height of their career.

Swedish Nobleman Works as Deckhand on Steamer



Count August Svensson, twenty years old, and heir of Duke Charles of Sweden, was discovered holystoning the deck of the Grace liner, Santa Louisa. The count, who will inherit the title and vast estate of Duke Charles, is rated a quartermaster on the ship and is considered a real seagoing shipmate by the crew.

New Pneumonia Serum May Cut Deaths One-Half

Boston.—Discovery of a new treatment for pneumonia in the form of an improved serum which it is thought may reduce the death rate from this disease by 25 or possibly 50 per cent, was described by Dr. Lloyd D. Felton, assistant professor of preventive medicine at the Harvard medical school, in an address at the New England Health Institute.

The treatment consisted, he said, of a method of precipitating and concentrating the antibodies in anti-pneumococcus serum. The original serum, which has been known for some time, was weak, he added, and its value was diminished by the fact that it produced violent reactions in the form of chills, serum sickness and rashes.

Doctor Felton said he had been able to eliminate the harmful substances from the serum.

Police Delay Arrest Until Bread's in Oven

Lyon, Mass.—Lynn police went to the home of Mrs. Mary Brown to arrest her on the charge of keeping and exposing liquor for sale. Mary was in the midst of a bread mixing and, at her plea that the batch would spoil unless kneaded, the officers waited until the dough was ready for the oven. Then they arrested her.

TO SEEK DATA IN FAR NORTH

Captain Bartlett Sails for Arctic on the Bear.

Washington.—Capt. Robert A. Bartlett, famous Arctic explorer and companion of Peary on his successful polar trip, has been commissioned by the National Geographic society to gather data in the Far North in preparation for future aerial explorations of the Arctic regions.

Captain Bartlett is aboard the United States coast guard ship, the Bear, America's most famous "ship of peace," from which he will make his observations during the Bear's annual cruise in Alaskan and Siberian waters.

A romantic feature of the voyage is the fact that the ship, which went to rescue Greely, now, in making what may be her last trip, helps pave the way for future aerial exploration of the Arctic.

Will Study Aircraft Lines.

Captain Bartlett will study, especially the locations available in Alaska for bases of operation for aircraft, which would be a significant step toward the million square-mile area between Point Barrow and the North pole, which area is wholly unexplored. He will report upon harbor facilities for supply ships, possible landing places for various types of craft between Nome and Point Barrow, the terrain across country and along the coast between those points, and upon air and water temperature, wind and sea surface conditions.

The Navy department has extended Captain Bartlett every co-operation in his work, which will be of great value as a basis of explorations such as those proposed when the Shennandoah's North pole trip was planned. As the foremost living authority on practical navigation of Arctic waters, Captain Bartlett was named a member of the polar expedition board, and during the consideration of the Shennandoah's flight he furnished much valuable data.

An air exploration of the unknown million square miles between Point Barrow and the pole probably would be made in summer months, a time of year when no explorer ever went there, because the unbroken ice of winter is essential for surface travel, ice floes and open water are aids to air operations in the North, while the summer months promise comfortable flying temperatures and 24 hours of daylight.

"The lure of a million square miles of unknown area, which may reveal land bodies that will be of use when commercial air routes are established across the pole remains a challenge to America," said Captain Bartlett, before he departed.

"Our flag flies at the pole and at Point Barrow—it is up to Americans to find and claim what lies between."

On Golden Anniversary Trip.

The historic vessel on her golden anniversary trip will sail out of Seattle, going north to Unalakleet, the Pribilof Islands, to St. Lawrence and St. Michael Islands, to Nome, and thence to ports of call where mission stations and Eskimo schools are visited. She will touch Point Barrow and cruise back to Bering strait, probably going along the Siberian coast on both sides of the strait.

The Bear was launched 40 years ago this spring from the ways at Greenock, Scotland, and was a Dundee sealer before the United States government bought her. Every year since 1888 she has made the lonesome cruise far beyond the white men's frontiers to administer law among Uncle Sam's Eskimo wards and protect his remote property on seal islands.

While the Bear is in Arctic regions she is judge, jury and clergyman. An incident of a recent voyage was the return of an Eskimo maiden to Nome as a witness against a young Eskimo who, having murdered a fellow Eskimo and a missionary, fled forth to set up "the Empire of the Eskimos." The commander holds court, marries, and conducts funeral services, and the crew all the schools, attend the sick, and perform numerous errands of mercy.

Quaker Maid Married in Ancient Manner

New York.—A Quaker maiden and a Quaker youth gave their marriage vows, one to the other, in the modest Friends' meeting house near Oyster park, in East Twentieth street. It was the same simple ceremony, used entirely without the services of a minister, which William Penn and his faithful followers introduced into America 242 years ago. It remains the simplest and briefest nuptial pledge used in this country today.

Standing face to face in the little, unadorned meeting room, Henry Eckroyd Kirk, Jr., of Englewood, Pa., and Enid Mary Richardson of Passaic, N. J., repeated to each other the 33 words which constitute the marriage vow according to the tenets of the Friends' religion. There was no minister to read the pledges, no ministerial pronouncement of man and wife. Only the placing of one hand within the other and a pledge spoken in the sight of God and man.

\$10 a Ton for Old Warships

London.—Since the armistice, obsolete warships of approximately 2,200 tons have been sold. They realized between \$20,000,000 and \$22,300,000.

PLAYGROUND SITES ARE OFFERED 50 CITIES

Harmon Foundation of New York Will Donate Fund for Each Up to \$2,000.

New York.—Growing towns, small cities and suburban centers will be given an opportunity to obtain playgrounds free of cost through proposal of the Harmon Foundation of New York to give playgrounds this year to 50 communities of this kind in the United States.

Although the time for filing applications will expire July 1, and a large number of applications have been received from communities throughout the country, Indiana towns have failed to take advantage of the offer, according to officers of the foundation.

Under the terms of the offer, towns, small cities and suburban sections of larger cities with 5,000 or more residents and which show a growth of at least 30 per cent since 1900, are eligible in the final consideration for selection of the 50 sites for playgrounds. Applications will be investigated and the 50 playgrounds given to the same number of applying communities which are found to need them most.

Other conditions are a \$2,000 maximum for each playground site, but this amount may be added to by the community if it is desired to purchase a better site than that obtainable for that amount. \$3,000 is the maximum price to be paid per acre; an appraisal of the actual value of the land by two disinterested citizens who know land values in the community must accompany each application. Assurance that an option on the land proposed for purchase can be obtained for a sufficient period to consummate negotiations must accompany each application; title of property must be examined and legal opinion provided; all applications must be made in writing on regular blanks provided by the division of playgrounds, Harmon foundation, 140 Nassau street, New York, and all playgrounds obtained through the foundation must be known permanently as Harmon field, and all applications must be endorsed by the mayor or president of the board of education.

The Harmon foundation was organized last year through the efforts of William M. Harmon, head of a real estate company of New York, to provide proper places of play for children because he had lacked these advantages when a child. A number of playgrounds have already been given to small growing towns.

Builds One-Man Dirigible an Amateur Can Operate



Matt Corbett has invented a one-man dirigible, which even an amateur can safely operate. The pony balloon will, probably be used to fight the terrible "grey moth," which has done much great damage throughout the country. The cost of operating the machine is small and the army air service thinks so much of it that it has it fully protected. The inventor predicts that it will be to the air what the Ford car is to the land—in other words, a great boon.

Less Than 1 Child in 4 Has Perfect Health

Washington.—More than 70 per cent of American school children have physical defects, Dr. Herman J. Norton, director of health education of the Rochester (N. Y.) schools, told a conference of home economics supervisors at the Interior department. He quoted a recent survey of the 22,000,000 children and declared 15,000,000 had bad teeth; 2,000,000 to 4,000,000 "fallen arches," defective spines or joints; 3,000,000 to 5,000,000 malnutrition; 6,000,000 poor eyesight; 1,000,000 more or less deaf; 1,000,000 had bad or did have tuberculosis; 20,000 had heart trouble, and 200,000 were mentally defective.

Can't Lose Pigeons

Kansas City, Kan.—Two pigeons which he had boarded for about a year were no longer desired by Frank Peterson, so he motored them five miles into the country and turned them loose. When Peterson arrived home the pigeons were there clamoring for food.



THREE WHITE KITTENS

MRS. TIGER FUSS looked fondly at her three kittens. "They are so pretty to go snuggling in that dirty barn," she said. "I never saw white cats that look like these before."

"No, my kittens shall not be brought up to work. They have plenty of milk and our mistress thinks they are the prettiest kittens she ever saw, so why should they soil their white fur going into the barn?"

"Better let them learn to hunt while they are young," said Mrs. Black Fuss, who was passing with her family. "You will have to catch them."

"You will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

"I will have to catch them," said Mrs. Tiger Fuss, who was sitting on the porch. "I will have to catch them."

French Village Recalls Days of the World War

Orleans, France.—Memories of the days of the world war were recalled in the town of Epinay-sur-Seine, when it was visited by a group of French war veterans.

A heavy cannon battery, mounted on a high hill, was the scene of a dramatic performance. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.

The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired. The cannon was aimed at a target in the distance, and the shot was fired.