

Beverly of Graustark

By
GEORGE BARR M'GUTHCHEON,
Author of "Graustark"
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guard," decided Miss Calhoun.
"Beverly, dear, that man is no ordinary person," said the princess quite positively.
"Of course he isn't. He's a tall, dark mystery."
"I observed him as he crossed the terrace this morning," said Lorry. "He's a striking sort of chap, and I'll bet my head he's not what he claims to be."
"He claims to be a fugitive, you must remember," said Beverly in his defense.

"I mean that he is no common malefactor, or whatever it may be. Who and what do you suppose he is? I confess that I'm interested in the fellow, and he looks as though one might like him without half trying. Why haven't you dug up his past history, Beverly? You are so keen about him."

"He positively refuses to let me dig," explained Beverly. "I tried, you know, but he—well, he squelched me."

"Well, after all is said and done, he caught us peeping today, and I am filled with shame," said the princess. "It doesn't matter who he is, he must certainly have a most unflattering opinion as to what we are."

"And he is sure to know us sooner or later," said the young countess, momentarily serious.

"Oh, if it ever comes to that I shall be in a splendid position to explain it all to him," said Beverly. "Don't you see, I'll have to do a lot of explaining myself?"

"Baron Dangloss!" announced the guard of the upper hall, throwing open the door for the doughty little chief of police.

"Your highness sent for me?" asked he, advancing after the formal salutation. The princess exhibited genuine amazement.

"I did, Baron Dangloss, but you must have come with the wings of an eagle. It is really not more than three minutes since I gave the order to Colonel Quimnox." The baron smiled mysteriously, but volunteered no solution. The truth is, he was entering the castle doors as the messenger left them, but he was much too fond of effect to spoil a good situation by explanations. It was a long two miles to his office in the Tower. "Something has just happened that impels me to ask a few questions concerning Baldos, the new guard."

"May I first ask what has happened?" Dangloss was at a loss for the meaning of the general smile that went around.

"It is quite personal and of no consequence. What do you know of him? My curiosity is aroused. Now, be quiet, Beverly. You are as eager to know as the rest of us."

"Well, your highness, I may as well confess that the man is a puzzle to me."



"What are you going to do with us?" He comes here a vagabond, but he certainly does not act like one. He admits that he is being hunted, but takes no one into his confidence. For that he cannot be blamed."

"Have you any reason to suspect who he is?" asked Lorry.

"My instructions were to refrain from questioning him," complained Dangloss, with a pathetic look at the original plotters. "Still, I have made investigations along other lines."

"And who is he?" cried Beverly eagerly.

"I don't know," was the disappointing answer. "We are confronted by a queer set of circumstances. Doubtless you all know that young Prince Dantun is flying from the wrath of his half brother, our lamented friend Gabriel. He is supposed to be in our hills with

a half starved body of followers. It seems impossible that he could have reached our northern boundaries without our outposts catching a glimpse of him at some time. The trouble is that his face is unknown to most of us, I among the others. I have been going on the presumption that Baldos is in reality Prince Dantun, but last night the belief received a severe shock."

"Yes?" came from several eager lips.
"My men who are watching the Dawsbergen frontier came in last night and reported that Dantun had been seen by mountaineers no later than Sunday, three days ago. These mountaineers were in sympathy with him and refused to tell whether he went. We only know that he was in the southern part of Graustark three days ago. Our new guard speaks many languages, but he has never been heard to use that of Dawsbergen. That fact in itself is not surprising, for, of all things, he would avoid his mother tongue. Dantun is part English by birth and wholly so by cultivation. In that he evidently finds a mate in this Baldos."

"Then he really isn't Prince Dantun?" cried Beverly, as though a cherished ideal had been shattered.

"Not if we are to believe the tales from the south. Here is another complication, however. There is, as you know, Count Halfont, and perhaps all of you, for that matter, a pretender to the throne of Axfhain, the fugitive Prince Frederic. He is described as young, good looking, a scholar and the next thing to a pauper."

"Baldos a mere pretender?" cried Beverly in distress. "Never!"
"At any rate, he is not what he pretends to be," said the baron, with a wise smile.

"Then you think he may be Prince Frederic?" asked Lorry, deeply interested.

"I am inclined to think so, although another complication has arisen. May I please your highness, I am in an amazingly tangled state of mind," admitted the baron, passing his hand over his brow.

"Do you mean that another mysterious prince has come to life?" asked Yette, her eyes sparkling with interest in the revelations.

"Early this morning a dispatch came to me from the Grand Duke Michael of Rapp-Thorberg, a duchy in western Europe, informing me that the duke's eldest son had fled from home and is known to have come to the far east, possibly to Graustark."

"Great Scott!" exclaimed Anguish. "It never rains but it hails, so here's hail to the princes three."

"We are the Mecca for runaway royalty, it seems," said Count Halfont.

"Go on with the story, Baron Dangloss," cried the princess. "It is like a book."

"A description of the young man accompanies the offer of a large reward for information that may lead to his return home for reconciliation, and—here the baron paused dramatically."

"And what?" interjected Beverly, who could not wait.

"The description fits our friend Baldos perfectly!"

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

The Poultry Show.

The Pickens County Poultry, Pigeon and Pet Stock Show is meeting with much encouragement, and lots of people have signified their intention of exhibiting, which is all very nice and good; but the membership is not swelling as fast as it should. Only six weeks remain until the show comes off and a lot of work is to yet be done—tickets, posters, premium lists, entry blanks, score cards, tags, etc., to be gotten up, correspondance to be done, exhibition coops to be procured, and only a very few members who have the time or inclination to go ahead with these things. Some further working arrangements must be made and a meeting of the fanciers should be immediately held to take up these matters.

This association, by its members, MUST make an exhibit at the Greenville show which is to be held Dec. 10-14, and our fanciers should get together at this next meeting and make the necessary arrangements for an exhibit.

Clerk's Sale,

State of South Carolina,
County of Pickens.

In Common Pleas Court.

In pursuance of a decreetal order made in the following-named case and on file in the clerk's office, I will sell to the highest bidder, during the legal hours for sale, at Pickens courthouse, S. C., on Salesday in December, 1907, the following-described real estate upon the terms herein after mentioned, to-wit:

James Trotter, et al.,

vs.

J. N. Trotter.

1st. All that certain piece, parcel or tract of land lying and being situate in the county and state aforesaid, containing 103 and 17-100 acres, more or less, as represented by plat of survey made in the division of the estate of G. McD. Trotter, deceased, on the 25th day of September, 1907, by G. A. Ellis, surveyor, and better known as the home tract of G. McD. Trotter, deceased, adjoining lands of B. P. Mauldin, Ferguson's lands, Reese Bowen and others.

2d. All that other piece, parcel or tract of land lying and being situate in the county and state aforesaid, containing 119 and 83-100 acres, more or less, as shown by plat of survey made in the division of the estate of G. McD. Trotter, deceased, on the 25th day of September, 1907, by G. A. Ellis, surveyor, being the northern portion of the estate of G. McD. Trotter, deceased, adjoining lands of M. W. Simmons, the home tract, Ed. Hendricks and others.

Terms—One-half cash, balance on a credit of twelve months from day of sale. The credit portion to be secured by a bond of the purchaser and a mortgage of the premises, said mortgage bearing interest from day of sale at the rate of eight per cent. per annum, with leave to the purchaser or purchasers to pay all cash on day of sale. Terms of sale must be complied with in one hour after sale, or the premises will be resold at the risk of the former purchaser or purchasers. Purchaser or purchasers to pay for all papers and for recording the same.

A. J. BOGGS,

Clerk of Court,

[Seal.]

Clerk's Sale

State of South Carolina, County of Pickens.—In Common Pleas Court.

In pursuance of a decreetal order made in the following-named case and on file in the clerk's office, I will sell to the highest bidder during the legal hours for sale, at Pickens courthouse, S. C., on Salesday in December, 1907, the following-described real estate, upon the terms hereinafter mentioned, to-wit:

Lisena Riggins, et al., Plaintiffs,
against

Clayton Collins, et al., Defendants.

All that certain tract or plantation of lands in said county and state lying on waters of Crow creek, waters of Keowee river, containing two hundred and fifty-six (256) acres, more or less, being all of best tract of land represented by a plat and survey of same made by Thos. D. Garvin, surveyor, dated the 19th day of April, 1854, less fifty and one fourth (50 1/4) acres sold off therefrom to Daniel Alexander by the said Jordan Rice, as will appear by deed from Jordan Rice to Daniel Alexander, dated March 12, 1872, and recorded in Deed Book "A," at pages 735 and 736 of the records of Pickens county, S. C., reference being hereby made to the above-mentioned deed and plat, and to a plat of the portion sold off from the original tract made by E. C. Edens, surveyor, dated May 8th, 1907, for a more complete description of the remaining 256 acres, more or less.

Terms—One-half cash on day of sale, the balance on a credit of twelve months. The credit portion to bear interest at the rate of eight per centum per annum until paid, and to be secured by a bond of the purchaser and mortgage of the premises sold, with leave to the purchaser to pay all cash on day of sale. Terms of sale must be complied with in one hour, or the premises will be sold on same day of sale at the risk of the former purchaser. Purchaser to pay for all papers and recording same.

A. J. BOGGS,

Clerk of Court.

[Seal.]

Notice of Final Settlement and Discharge.

Notice is hereby given that I will make application to J. B. Newberry, Esq., Judge of Probate for Pickens county, in the State of South Carolina, on the 5th day of December, 1907, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, or as soon thereafter as said application can be heard, for leave to make final settlement of the estate of W. B. Singleton, deceased, and obtain discharge as executor of said estate.
H. D. SINGLETON,
Nov. 7, 1907, Executor.

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