The Altenburg Case

By GEORGE DYRE ELDRIDGE

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By George Dyre Eldridge

(Continued from Page 14.)

clerk in the Venezuela Syndicate, and must have known who it was that robbed the company. He is a man whom I had a long search made for after I was sent to Hacklebury. Finally, I was told he was dead. If he's living and I could have got him to the stand I'm certain that he could have been made to tell, but that's all useless now!"

"What were his relations with John Altenburg?"

"They were fellow-conspirators and robbers," exclaimed Calden, with sudden fire, "of whom Altenburg carried off the plunder while Clayton got the dregs! I've always believed there was something in Clayton's past and known to Altenburg which gave the latter the whip hand. There's no other ground on which I can account for a man like Altenburg having such control over a man like Clayton as he did."

"What sort of a looking man was Clayton? How old, his build and so forth?" asked Trafford.

"I haven't seen either for ten years, but in those days the two men were much alike. You see, they were double cousins and very nearly of an age. Clayton a year or two the older. I met Clayton, who'd been knocking round the world considerably, about the time of my marriage. He was rather a favorite of my wife's. I really th nk she cared more for him than she did for her own brother. Personally, I think he was a good deal more of a man, and I must say that, on the whole, I liked him, and I certainly expected better things of him than to join hands with Altenburg in a scheme of robbery. As I said before, I do not believe he would have done it if Altenburg had not had some hold on him, the exact character of which the rest of us did not know. While they were very much alike in person, I think Clayton would have been the better looking of the two, only he always wore a full beard and mustache, at least after he came back from his rovings, while Altenburg was always clean shaved, which gave him, in my eyes at least, the advantage. My wife, however, always insisted that C ayton was far and away the better looking."

"Has she got a photograph or p cture of any kind of him?" asked Trafford.

"Oh, I'm pretty certain she'd be able to find you one somewhere. Oh, God, if he'd only turned up sooner!"

XXVI.

BILLINGS MAKES FURTHER TROUBLE.

On the day succeeding that on which Beckwith and Trafford visited Calden Grimbleshaw was again at the lawyer's office, and felt a trifle annoyed to find that what Beckwith wanted was to go again over the story of the finding of Altenburg's body, with all its attending circumstances. It seemed to him that this was already worn threadbare, and that if anything was to be done to accomplish the main object now in view, that of relieving Judith of the weight of anxiety under which she rested, something more than a study of ancient history was required. He did not hesitate to say so when the interview was over, and he did not like the way in which Beckwith treated the suggestion. In fact, he did not seem to regard it as a suggestion at all, and Grimbleshaw left under the feeling that he had a counsel who could be exceedingly irritating when it suited him not to be exceedingly pleasant.

Grimbleshaw had not seen Judith since the arrest of her father. He knew that if he was to have made any explanation to her the time to have made it was immediately, and that inasmuch as he had let that time pass, he must either depend on a chance meeting with her, or wait until facts developed which would show in its true light the part he had played in that affair. None the less, when he left Beckwith, his impulse was to go direct to her and seek opportunity for an explanation. It was a matter of comparative indifference to him if others blamed him so long as she knew the truth, and, conversely, the approval of others counted for nothing so long as he was in doubt as to the state of her feelings.

When he finally admitted to himself that it wasn't quite the thing for him to hunt Judith up to tell her that her brother was a blithering idiot, he reached the conclusion that after all life hadn't just then anything else that was quite worth the doing, and so he decided to take to the woods. He turned into the road leading up the long hill and overlooking the river, over which he had driven with Mrs. Calden on the night of his visit to the camp. Thus, almost without realizing that he had come in that direction, he found himself again in Braxton's Woods, where he had met Judith that day when she had resented her inability to explain. He was certain that he hadn't come that way because he had once met her there and hoped he might do so again; he was certain that he hadn't come there because there was a wood road that led in the direction of the Altenburg house, and, above all, he was sure that she would not misinterpret him, as Horace had done, and thereupon he wished that she was there then, that he might make surety doubly sure.

He had just turned into that certain wood road that led, indirectly, but surely, to the Plains road, and in doing so skirted the rear of the Altenburg farm, when he heard a rustling in the undergrowth and a man stepped out of the thickest part into the road a few rods ahead. While there was nothing unusual in the incident itself, there was something in the movements of the man that struck Grimbleshaw as peculiar, and that caused him to draw back into a position from which he could watch the other without himself being seen. The newcomer moved like a man who was engaged in a search; yet while at one moment he seemed intent upon marks on the ground, at others he stood erect and peered through the branches, as if trying to find some mark at a distance. Then he would stoop again, as examining the earth, and finally he moved on into the undergrowth on the opposite side of the road from that at which he had appeared.

There was something in the movements or the appearance of the man that struck the watcher as familiar, and yet for the moment he found it impossible to place him. He waited long enough in his position to feel satisfied that the man was not to return, and was just about to resume his way when into the wood road, at almost identically the spot where the first man had appeared, another stepped, as silently and unannounced as the first. He, however, was making no pretense of looking for marks in the road or woods, but was openly and without disguise following and tracking. He also had a familiar air, and one that it did not take Grimbleshaw long to resolve. In spite of a fairly effective disguise he read him at once as Fry.

It had then to do with the Altenburg affair, the present incident? But who could the first man be? No one who had appeared thus far. Of that, in spite of his inability to penetrate the appearance of familiarity, he was certain. Another man was, in some way, in the affair; a man of whom he had no knowledge and whose existence had been kept from him. Was it a development from which to draw hope or new fears?

(To be Continued.)

Boomerang.

An amusing incident occurred when the house of lords was in committee on the reform bill of 1867. The clerk of the house intimated that an amendment had been handed in, the writing of which was so illegible that he was unable to say what it was about or who had written it. It was then discovered that Lord Lyttleton was the author, and it turned out to be a proposal disfranchising all persons who could not write.—Westminster Gazette.

Out of Place.

A sentry, an Irishman, was on post duty for the first time at night, when the officer of the day approached. He called, "Who comes there?"

"Officer of the day," was the reply.

"Then what are yez doin' out at night?" asked the sentry.—London Telegraph.

Demeanor Analyzed.

"Your chauffeur seems very respectful," said the guest.

"That air of deferential solicitude," replied Mr. Chuggins, "is not respect. It is sympathy."—Washington Star.

Naturally.

Medical Professor—What is the result, young gentlemen, when a patient's temperature goes down as far as it can? Student—Why—er—he gets cold feet.—Cleveland Leader.

One at Home.

Mrs. Happywed—I never saw an educated bear. Did you? Patient Wife—Yes, indeed. We have one. Come over some afternoon when he is at home.

Devote each day to the object then in time, and every evening will find something done.—Goethe.

A Useless Effort.

Visitor—I suppose you men in public life weigh your words? Senator—What's the use? Some newspaper fellow is sure to come along and monkey with the scales.—Judge.

Exhaustive observation is an element of every great achievement.—Spenser.

Slow Digestion

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This complaint constitutes one of the most common forms of dyspepsia. It is the bane of those who ignore natural laws, and forget that the healthy action of the stomach is dependent on the condition of both body and mind. Those whose pursuits oblige them to pass much of their time within doors; men of letters, and of business, whose minds are seldom perfectly relaxed; administrators, speculators, financiers, and the various professional men fall ready victims to it.

Slow digestion occurs, in persons of all temperaments and habits, but oftenest in those of irritable, or nervous disposition, and anxious aspect of countenance, who are popularly characterized as "dyspeptic looking." Eating too rapidly is a common, exciting cause of the disorder, as is also imperfect mastication of food from loss of teeth.

There is also a deficiency of the gastric juices, and an insufficiency of the motor and muscular, or churning movements of the stomach walls, and the food remains entirely too long in this organ, instead of being passed down into the small intestine at the proper time.

Even a dinner not exceeding the ordinary limits is followed at varying intervals, but usually within an hour, by a feeling of weight and oppression in the stomach. For several hours afterward the person experiences decided discomfort, and should even a light supper be taken, horrible night-mare and troubled dreams are certain to result.

"I should be quite well, if it were not necessary to eat," is a common statement made by sufferers from this form of stomach complaint. Many of them actually dread the approach of meal time, knowing what disagreeable symptoms they are sure to experience after eating; and would doubtless discontinue the ingestion of food into their stomachs altogether if it were possible to live without eating.

There is really no necessity whatever for depriving one's self of the pleasures of the table, or to starve the rest of the system because the stomach is derelict in its duty, and does not digest the food as quickly or as thoroughly as it should.

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FASHIONS AND FADS

Some of the prettiest of the new capes for evening wear are cut circular and with fitted yoke.

The large hat is being restricted to dress occasions, small hats are in sway for all ordinary wear.

The heavy crepe mourning veil is now rarely seen, instead there is a light net veil, bordered with crepe.

The fur collar not long ago was the recognized trimming for a cloak, but now embroidery takes its place.

Veils no longer are drawn tightly around the face, they must not touch the face at all, even at the chin.

Satin charmeuse remains the favorite fabric for ball and dinner gowns, and in fact, for evening gowns of all descriptions.

The flannelettes which are new this fall are exceedingly pretty. For night clothes and negligees they are specially pretty.

One of the new silks, quite similar in appearance to the popular rajah, is called derby silk. It is a silk and cotton mixture.

The zibeline used this winter differs from that of ten years ago in that the new appears ribbed and, in its finish, more like cloth.

Many of the newest dresses, button or hook in the back, while some fasten down from the shoulder across the back to the opposite side.

The brims of many of the new hats are faced with ribbon, doing away with the necessity for hemming or otherwise finishing the edges.

The smart hat of the coming season when the wearer goes in for extremes—will cover the right ear and extinguish the right eye.

Plaids seem to be the favorite wear of scholgirls, both large and small. These plaids are generally of the large and conspicuous patterns.

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RAILROADS

New York New Haven and Hartford Railroad

NOVEMBER 1, 1909

Trains Leave Bridgeport as Follows:

FOR NEW YORK—*4:45, *5:16, †5:53, †6:24, †7:17, *7:48, †8:28, *8:51, 9:06, *10:00, *11:05 A. M.—*12:28, *1:49, *2:27, 3:00, *3:13, 5:07, *5:27, 6:12, *6:29, *7:22, *8:11, *9:28, 9:58 P. M.—SUNDAYS—*4:45, *5:16, †8:25, 10:00 A. M.—*12:30, *2:28, *2:27, *4:13, 5:07, *5:27, †6:45, *7:22, *8:11, *9:36, 9:52 P. M.

FOR WASHINGTON, via Harlem River—*12:30 (daily) A. M.; *1:18 P. M.

FOR NEW HAVEN—*12:32, *1:47, 6:50, 7:56, *9:21, 8:25, *10:43, *11:33 A. M.—12:16, *12:30, 1:50, *2:29, *5:29, *3:46, *4:25, 4:57, 5:37, *6:30, *6:54, 7:10, *7:32, *9:41 †11:54 P. M. SUNDAYS—*12:32, *1:41, 8:13, 9:43, *10:43, *11:33 A. M.—*2:29, *4:25, *6:32, *6:54, 7:18, *7:32, 8:47, *10:02 P. M.

FOR BOSTON, via New London and Providence—*1:41, 6:50, *11:33 A. M.—*2:29, *3:46, *4:25, *6:54 P. M.—SUNDAYS—*1:41, *11:33 A. M.—*2:29, *4:25, *6:54 P. M.

FOR BOSTON via Hartford and Willimantic—*9:21 A. M.—*3:29 P. M.

FOR WINSTED and intermediate Stations—5:00, 7:00, 9:35 †11:40 A.M.—2:35, *5:51, 7:40 P. M.—SUNDAYS—8:30 A. M.—6:45 P. M.

FOR WATERBURY, ANSONIA, DERBY and Intermediate Stations—5:00, 7:00, 8:00, 9:35, 11:40 A. M.—2:35, †5:54, 7:40 P. M.—SUNDAYS—8:30, 10:50 A. M.—6:45, 8:50 P. M.

FOR GT. BARRINGTON, LENOX, PITTSFIELD, ETC.—7:00, 9:50 A. M.—4:33 P. M.—SUNDAYS—8:30 A. M.

FOR DANBURY, NEW MILFORD, ETC., via Brookfield Junction—7:00, 9:50 A. M.—4:33, 6:36 P. M.—SUNDAYS—8:30 A. M. (to New Milford).

FOR LITCHFIELD, ETC.—9:50 A. M.—4:33 P. M.—SUNDAYS—8:30 A. M.

*Express trains. †Local Express.

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