

THE IRON TEST

CHAPTER 2.

Bert, his clothing ablaze from the volatile liquid poured over him with murderous intent as he slept by Red Mask, maintained his grip in the trapeze bar several seconds after his marvellous leap through the flaming hoop, then fell, a living torch into the center of the circus ring, unconscious and burning alive.

Cries of horror swept through the great crowd. Those in nearby seats rushed toward the senseless rider but were restrained by attendants. There was one person there who did not cry out or lose her presence of mind. Edith's eyes bent close on Bert caught the first flash as his saturated costume came in contact with the flaming edge of the hoop, and they never left him until he crashed to the earth. Then, pale but cool, she rushed to the nearest exit, tore away the portiere and was first to kneel at the side of the death-mened man. Wrapping the heavy drapery about him, with the assistance of attendants, she quickly smothered the flames, heedless that her own flimsy skirt had caught fire.

Perkins caught her and crushed out the flames and together they carried Bert to his dressing room, while the audience reassured, resumed their seats and the performance continued. Lurking back in the crowd, Craven and Peaky watched the development of their murder plot and as Bert was carried away, the latter, an evil triumph in his eyes, whistled and said: "Guess Peaky a goner this time."

And Craven with a bitterness that startled even the conscienceless Peaky, replied: "Not unless he inhaled the flames." An attendant passing through the ring shortly after Bert's fiery plunge picked up a locket and realizing Bert must have lost it, he sought Edith and handed it to her. "Here's something Berde must have dropped. Will you return it to him?" Edith, assuring him she would, naturally examined the trinket, which bore the Beresford coat of arms and the letter "B" set in diamonds on the outside. Opening it, she saw the faces of a youngish man and woman whom she took to be Bert and his sweetheart and an expression of pain crossed her face at the thought of his having a sweetheart. Then hurriedly closing the locket, she started for town to fill a prescription for Bert, whose condition was pronounced to be not serious.

But Craven, ever watchful of the girl and Bert, had seen her examine the locket, and stepping up to her, said: "As custodian of lost property, I'll take charge of that locket." Edith, however, had no intention of surrendering the trinket and firmly refused, replying: "It belongs to Mr. Ford—has his picture in it. I will return it myself." Turning quickly, she failed to see the look of anger on the man's face, nor did she dream into what peril the possession of the locket soon was to plunge her.

Craven was scheming how best to get the trinket from the girl when they ran into Peaky, who halted him and with unaccustomed boldness demanded ten dollars, accompanying the request with a significant remark that it was a mighty curious accident that happened to Berde. Craven, cowardly as his name, fearing the other suspected any part he might have played in the tragedy, produced the money and added with forced pleasantness: "There's twice \$10 in it for you if you'll get for me the locket Miss Paige has."

Edith had walked a half mile toward the town, keeping well in the shadows of the trees. For it was a lonely road, when a woman's picture told her of impending peril. She hastened her steps and had reached a bright light in front of a three-story flat roofed house when Red Mask, stepped from behind a tree and seized her in his arms, exclaiming: "Give me the locket, or I'll—"

Terror did not rob the girl of her strength. There was a brief struggle and Edith, using a trick of the ring, threw the man heavily to the ground and before he could regain his feet, dashed into the house, the front door being open. Up three flights of stairs she raced, then up a ladder and in a frenzy of fear threw her weight against a trap door leading to the roof. It gave way and she sprang out on the roof. Along the four edges she ran looking for an avenue of escape for she knew Red Mask would be upon her.

In the light from the lamp below her eyes caught a wire stretching to the house opposite and without pausing to count the risk, she swung out into space and began to make her way across just as her pursuer gained the roof to pause agast at her deadly peril. Hand over hand she made her way until she could see where the wire disappeared into the side of the house, giving no hope of escape, only a sheer drop of thirty feet to the street. The brave girl was almost in despair when she caught sight of another wire, ten feet distant which led to a porch and mustering her remaining strength she swung back and forth until certain of her momentum, she released her hold, flew through the intervening space, and caught the second wire in her clinging grasp. Two minutes later, she had reached the sidewalk. Then her solicitude for Bert overcoming her own fears, she continued to town, got the prescription and returned safely to her van, in which she hid the locket and made her way to Bert's side.

from the horses started back down the grade toward a curve at which no human hand could stay it from a plunge into the vast depths below. It was the violent swinging of the van that awoke Edith and springing to a glance told her of her peril. Rousing Bert she told him of their plight and he sprang at once to action.

Clasping Edith in his arms he drew her to the top of the van, plunging now at dizzying speed a dozen yards from the curve of death. Bert's clear mind visioned the only chance of escape. At the spot where the van must leave the road, a large tree overhanging and a limb dropped almost even with the van top.

Commanding Edith to clasp her arms tightly about his neck, he held her to him with his left arm. He swung his right arm up and caught the limb of the overhanging wagon swept from beneath them and disappeared into the chasm.

For an instant the two hung there in space, then pain and weakness overcame Bert, his slaps slipped and the pair dropped to the fate it had seemed they had missed by a miracle.

(To be continued.)

KEYSVILLE.

Miss Anna Ritter spent the Easter holidays with friends of Westminster. Curtis Roop, of near Haney, visited Alfred Stonessifer on Sunday. Miss Marion Clabaugh, of near Wiley's Mill; John Moser and wife, of Frederick county, were visitors at the home of Mrs. Young on Sunday. Miss Vergie Fox accompanied the latter to their home for a week.

Edward Hahn, wife and daughter, Reta, visited Mrs. Hahn's parents, of Fairfield, Pa.

Miss Nora Forney, of Baltimore spent Easter with her parents, Alfred N. Forney and wife.

Charles Young, wife and son, John, visited Mrs. Young's mother, Mrs. John Shroyck, of near Creagerstown, on Sunday.

Harry Dinterman, wife and son, Kenneth, visited his parents of Rocky Ridge.

Mrs. John Moser and family, of Glyndon, visited her mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Myers, on Sunday.

A surprise party was held at the home of Mr. Charles Young on last Friday evening. Quite a number of guests were present and at a late hour they were invited to the dining room where refreshments were served.

Those present were Charles Young and wife, Edward Hahn and wife, Thomas Fox and wife, Harry Dinterman and wife, John Moser and wife, Misses Vergie and Carrie Fox, Dora Devilbiss, Vallie and Agnes Kiser, Nellie, Maude and Clara Moser, Mary and Anna Baumgardner, Anna Newcomer, Ruth and Nellie Kiser, Marion Clabaugh, Ethel Grimes, Clara Aring, Clara Six, Reta Hahn, Anna Naylor, Bessie Wely, Messrs. George Eichelberger, Roy Traxell, Andrew Alexander, Charles Devilbiss, Elmer Bollinger, Earl and Charles Roop, Harry Clabaugh, Roy and Carroll Baumgardner, Bernard and Kenneth Dinterman, Robert Grimes, Earl Welthy, James and Joseph Cushon, Upton Austin, Wilbur Naylor, John Young, Wilbur Hahn, Charles Six, Roscoe Kiser, Jacob Myerly, Erna Six, Maurice Warren, George Myers and Charles Trimmer.

Miss Ellen Valentine visited a few days with her friend Miss Lena Angell, of Lebanon Valley College, at Taneytown, who was home for her Easter vacation.

UNIONTOWN.

Mrs. Mary C. Cookson returned home on Tuesday after spending the winter with friends.

At Uniontown, on April 19, Rev. G. W. Baughman united in marriage Mr. Winfield F. Strawsburg, of Union Bridge, and Miss Ethel M. Jones, of Bart Hill.

Miss S. E. Weaver, who has spent the winter with her brother, Dr. John Weaver, and wife, of Union Bridge, returned home this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Gobright and family, of near Wilmington, visited their relatives here recently.

Miss Annie Babylon, who is on the sick list, is improving.

Miss Nellie Selby, of Copperville, was the week's end guest of Miss Clara Boversox and Miss Clara Slonaker.

Mr. Clarence Lockard, of Westminster, spent Sunday with friends in town.

Mrs. E. G. Cover and daughters and Master Jesse Shreeve visited relatives here at Easter.

Mrs. Benjamin Rightler, of Baltimore, spent several days with her sister, Mrs. U. G. Hiltzbride and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Mervin Powers and Mr. Guy Billmyer, of Baltimore, were week's end guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Billmyer.

Mr. Ralph Romsper, of Philadelphia, was home for the Easter holidays.

Mrs. Harry Haines and daughter are visiting in Baltimore.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Hymiller, of Haney, spent Easter with Mrs. Hymiller's father, Mr. John Heck and family.

Miss Ella Lee spent Easter at her home.

On Wednesday at the Methodist Protestant parsonage Rev. R. K. Lewis united in marriage Mr. Paul Fritz and Miss Anna Ecker.

MILLERS.

Last Thursday evening the friends of Miss Bessie McCullough gave her a birthday surprise at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Brown near here. The evening was spent in outdoor games by the young folks, while the older folks were entertained by music on the gramophone, etc. Refreshments consisting of ice cream, cakes, coffee, oranges, apples and candy were served in which all took an active part. About sixty invited guests were present.

Mrs. Vertie Warner and children, of Baltimore visited Mr. and Mrs. John Rinehart Easter.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Miller and son, of Baltimore visited Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Miller over Easter.

Jacob Zepp and family visited at Hanover Sunday. Everett Miller is repairing his house. William Giller and family, of

Philadelphia, and Miss Marguerite Giller, of Baltimore, visited their parents during the Easter holidays. Mr. and Mrs. John K. Miller gave a reception at their home on Good Friday in honor of their son, Harvey L. Miller, who recently returned from over seas and was honorably discharged from the Army. The day was a happy one, and all enjoyed themselves very much. A fine dinner and supper was served which was also much enjoyed. Those present were Mr. George Hoffacker, Vincent McCullough, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Graf, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey L. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Miller and son, Melvin, Mr. and Mrs. Luther Wentz and children, Vernon and Marie, Misses Vertie Hoffacker, Fern Miller, Messrs. Harvey Graf, Milton Miller and Sadie Graf.

Mr. and Mrs. Luther Wentz and children and Mr. and Mrs. Harvey L. Miller spent last Saturday at Hanover.

MOULT IDEAL.

We are having ideal weather at this writing. Mr. John T. Gosnell spent the Easter holidays with relatives of East Brooklyn.

Those who called on Mr. James W. Fleming and family Sunday last were Mr. George Gosnell and family, Mrs. Annie Sellam and daughter, Lucinda and Miss Cora Harn.

Miss Alma Ecker and friend, of Baltimore, visited her mother, Mrs. Lucinda Ecker Tuesday last.

Mr. Theodore Gosnell is on the sick list. We are very sorry to hear of the illness of Dr. S. E. Waters. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Master Cravil Hall, of near Popular Springs, called on Mr. William Dempsey and family quite recently.

There seems to be a great attraction at the home of the Davis brothers for the young city folks.

Mr. Samuel T. Mathias visited friends in Baltimore quite recently.

Mr. August Davis is quite sick at this writing.

Mr. William H. Dempsey called on Dr. S. E. Waters Sunday last.

Mr. John Sheehan and family, of Baltimore, and Mr. Charles Bowers visited Mr. William Bowers and family, of near this place, Sunday.

Plowing and making gardens seems to be the main occupation at this time.

Here's to the sick for a speedy recovery.

WARFIELDSBURG.

Mr. Grammer Phillips and family, who moved from near Leister's church to the farm formerly occupied by John Myers, were given a surprise party on Thursday night of last week. There were about 25 gathered there. Party plays were enjoyed by the young folks. Elegant refreshments were served at a late hour.

Our county roads are being worked by the supervisors.

Frisk, the little pet dog of Mr. David Reynolds, was killed last week by being struck by an automobile.

Mr. Baxter Bowers has bought a new Ford touring car.

Miss Anna Phillips is visiting her aunt, Mrs. Henry Griffie.

Charles Barnes, of Gamber, visited his sister, Mrs. Geo. Phillips, Tuesday.

FRIZELBURG.

The spring weather has awakened Frizelburg to the fact that the world did not stop even if Frizelburg items did.

Every day seems to bring forth either cheer, grim sadness, or loss.

Mr. Jonas Lawyer, who purchased a new car neglected to grease the back wheels, and the consequence was the bearings were ground out of the wheel.

Mr. Wm. Sullivan, wife and family, entertained on Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Harry Welk and family, Mr. Scott Sullivan, of Westminster; Mr. Edward Sullivan, of Baltimore; Mrs. Hoff, of Hanover; Mrs. Horne Dickensheets and Mrs. Mollie Myers.

Miss Helen Hesson, of Baltimore, visited her home the past Sunday.

Misses Cathryne and Madeline Sullivan spent Easter Monday in Westminster with their aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Scott Sullivan.

MARYLAND JOCKEY CLUB PIMLICO

MAY 1 to 17 Seven Races Daily including Steeplechase. First Race 2.30 P. M. Admission \$1.50 Govt. tax 15c. Dates of important stakes. Pimlico Nursery \$1,500 added Sat. May 2. Spring Handicap \$5,000 added Wed. May 7. Green Spring Valley Steeplechase \$5,000 added Sat. May 10. Preakness \$25,000 added Wed. May 14. Juvenile \$2,500 added Thurs. May 15. Pimlico Oaks \$5,000 added Sat. May 17. April 18-14

THE FINE HORSE BLACK PRINCE!



This Fine STALLION will make the Season of 1919, at the Stable of the Owner near OGG'S SCHOOL HOUSE, on the Hook Road, EVERY DAY except Tuesday and Saturday. BLACK PRINCE weighs 1200 pounds, is a Beautiful Black and a sure foot getter. He has a mark of 2.17. He is bred by Prince of India and a Wilkes mare. All who wish to breed from a fine horse are invited to come and look him over as he will commend himself for style and action. This horse was formerly owned by David Barnhart, of Manchester. TERMS:—\$10.00 to insure a Mare in Foal. Anyone putting a Mare and parting with her before she is known to be with foal will be held for the Insurance. NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS OR ESCAPES. GEORGE E. FREYMAN, Owner.

FARMERS!



My Jack will stand at my place, HALF MILE FROM PINKSBURG, (Clover Hill) Every Day This Season. If you have a good mare it will pay you to breed her, as you know male colts are high while horse colts are cheap. TERMS:—\$10.00 for colt to suck. W. B. BOND, Phone Westminster 812P12.

COMMISSIONERS' NOTICE.

The County Commissioners of Carroll county will meet at their office, in Westminster, every Monday and Tuesday in the month of April, 1919, for the transaction of business. By order, MARTIN D. HESS, Clerk.

RUMOR NOT TRUE!

The rumor that I had to close on account of war contracts at Oakland Mills is not true. I am open at my usual hours and serve the public in the same courteous manner as heretofore. My stock of GROCERIES, etc., are always fresh and up-to-date. Give me a call.

LOUIS SACHS

July 5th. NORTH BRANCH, MD.

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SOME CHICKENS

When you get your feeds from FRANK S. STEWART & CO. MAIN AND JOHN STS. BABY BUSTER FEED, INTERMEDIATE FEED, SCRATCH FEED, GROWING FEED, and say "LAY OR BUST" FOR EGGS. THE BEST GRADE OF Oil for Incubators. FULL LINE OF FANCY and STAPLE GROCERIES! AGENTS FOR VICTOR-VICTROLAS AND ALABASTINE. FRANK S. STEWART & CO. feb 28 '19.

NOTICE!

An Old Reliable Firm with a New and Up-to-Date Stock

As I sold my entire stock on March 18, I have reopened with a fine line of Clothing, Shoes, Hats and Furnishings FOR MEN AND BOYS. Come in and look us over, all visits will be appreciated.

H. ROSENSTOCK, 6 W. Main St., Westminster, Md.

NEW LIVERY STABLE

I have opened a Livery Stable on John Street, near Main St., and have for hire at all times SINGLE AND DOUBLE TEAMS Good Horses, New Vehicles

This business is separate and distinct from my sales stables, and will be under my personal supervision.

C. W. KING, Prop., Westminster.

Make Your Home Attractive & Comfortable

With the assortment of furniture that we have on our floors, we can help you immensely in making your home the brightest and best spot on earth for your family. Let us show you either individual pieces or suites, that are most attractive and sensible, up to the minute at the right price.

OUR 5-PIECE BEDROOM SUITS, ALL OAK, \$37.50 UP.

For your dining room:—OAK BUFFET, has large mirror, lined drawers for silver, drawer for linens, and roomy apartment for china. CHAIRS special at \$54.90.

3 piece Parlor suit upholstered in green velour, mahogany finish polished \$28.00 up.

Full size white enamel beds \$4.00 up. Full size 1 piece mattress \$4.00 up. Layer felt mattress, 2 pieces, \$15.00 up. Full size all iron springs Guaranteed 10 years \$6.00.

Full size wood frame spring \$4.00. Square extension table open to 6 feet \$9.75 up. Large upholstered leather rockers \$14.00. Comfortable rockers, finish GoldenOak \$2.50. Ironing boards and stand complete \$1.65. Cane seat dining room chairs (special) 1/2 dozen \$7.00.

Library Table, mahogany finish \$10.75 up.



The Famous Sellers Kitchen Cabinet \$32 up.

Window shades, special 39c. Our floor coverings of Linoleums and Congoleum. Rugs and matings are priced very much lower than we can buy the same quality of goods today.

Remnants of high grade matting at 29c per yard. After April let us invite our customers and friends to visit us in our new location, formerly the building of C. L. China & Son, where we will be pleased to show you our entire stock of furniture of new designs; attractive, serviceable and faultless in workmanship. We thank all our customers and friends for their Patronage in the past, and trust we may have the opportunity of serving them in the future in our new Home.

Yours very truly, Atlee W. Wampler, Home Furnishings.

C.W.KING

Will pay highest market prices for all kinds of LIVE STOCK

Also FAT HOGS AND CALVES HOGS AND CALVES SHIPPED EVERY SATURDAY



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AGENTS FOR VICTOR-VICTROLAS AND ALABASTINE. FRANK S. STEWART & CO. feb 28 '19.

Home of the FORD

IMMEDIATE DELIVERY CALL AND SEE THEM ROADSTER - \$500 TOURING CAR - \$525 COPOLET - \$650 SEDAN - \$775 CHASSIS - \$475 All F. O. B. Detroit.

Ford 1-Ton Truck \$550

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Bark Wanted

At Tannery Station! We will pay Fourteen Dollars (\$14.00) per ton of 2000 pounds for Prime Chestnut Oak Bark and Eight Dollars (\$8.00) per ton of 2000 pounds for Prime Black Oak Bark, of this year's peeling, delivered in good order and condition at the CARROLL TANNERY, BEFORE THE FIRST DAY OF JULY, 1919.

We will not buy any Span Oak Bark this season.

The Carroll Oak Tanning Co. of Carroll County, Maryland. Tannery Station on the W. M. R'y. Feb 28-4mo.

DR. FAHRNEY

HAGERSTOWN, MD. DIAGNOSTICIAN Specialist in Chronic Diseases Acute diseases get well of themselves or run into chronic form. There is always a cause and you can not get well until the cause is removed. Cause and effect is the great law of nature. You know the effect—find the cause. Send me your name and address and let me study your case. Consultation Free

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Optomestrist and Optician, of Baltimore



will be at BOYLE'S DRUG STORE, Westminster, Every Wednesday. Eyes examined free. Glasses accurately fitted at reasonable prices.

WALL PAPER

This is the time of the year to do home decorating. Rooms that are dull may be transformed into bright, livable ones if NEW PAPER is put on your walls. Let us place samples of the latest papers before you.

JOS. H. HAHN, WESTMINSTER, MD. Phone 104M. 2-28-3m

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SURGEON DENTIST ALL BRANCHES OF MECHANICAL DENTISTRY A SPECIALTY. CROWN AND BRIDGE WORK. PAINLESS EXTRACTING. GOLD AND ENAMEL FILLINGS. ALL WORK GUARANTEED. Office 114 E. Main St., Opposite Union National Bank, WESTMINSTER, MD. rps 137

CORN WANTED!

Call 137 or 96R. G. N. Hunter.

ELECTION NOTICE

Westminster Deposit and Trust Co., Westminster, Md., April 18, 1919.

The Stockholders of the Westminster Deposit and Trust Company are hereby notified that the regular annual meeting for the election of TWELVE DIRECTORS, to manage the affairs of the Company for the ensuing year will be held in the Banking Rooms of said Company, on MONDAY, 5th DAY OF MAY, 1919, between the hours of 10 and 11 o'clock, a. m.

N. H. BAUMGARTNER, Apr. 18-3t Secretary and Treasurer

TAXI! TAXI!

If you are in need of a Taxi that is comfortable and with a competent driver, I am the person to hire for long and short distance. Rates reasonable. Call phone 75 M. Day and night service. WILBUR SCHAEFFER, April 18-1m Westminster, Md.