

Mollie, the "Traitor"

By WILLIAM FALL

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He crouched in the undergrowth, cautiously parting the bushes with one hand to peer out down the mountain side. He had escaped from the state penitentiary three weeks before and his pursuers had never been able to discover his secret hiding place upon Bear mountain.

He looked round cautiously. No one was in sight. High up on the opposite hill he saw the outlines of a tiny cabin. It was his sweetheart's home—Mollie Stark's. It was to avenge an insult to her that he had shot and crippled Seth Baldwin.

But since his flight he had not dared go near her home. It was too desperate a chance to take. But a visit on his part to the wild glen in which they had plighted their troth had resulted in the finding of a package of food placed there by Mollie. In it was a little note.

"Dere Ben," it ran, "I hid this and bront it here thinking you would come here. Come to the cabin on Monday nite at nine. Lovingly, Mollie."

He was within ten yards when the door opened. His heart leaped. Mollie stood in the doorway, her arms outstretched, to welcome him. The shadow of a man had passed the candle; another, and another. He halted in his tracks. Behind Mollie he saw a rifle barrel.

With an oath he flung back into the brushwood.

Mollie was a traitress! He would show her! He would show them! What should he do?

For an hour he lay thinking, gnawing his lip in rage. He had recognized one of the men in the parlor as Frank Merriman, the sheriff. He had been a suitor for Mollie's hand before she promised herself to Ben. Doubtless he had persuaded her.

Ha! He had his plan. It flashed into his brain re-dyed in the furnace of his wrath. Doubtless Merriman would be at her home the following night. He would steal in and kill the man before Mollie's eyes—and then—then—cut off her hair, leaving her to the derision of the hill folk.

An hour later he was lying upon his stomach outside the cabin. Inside he saw Frank Merriman, smoking in one corner. Mollie was laying the supper table.

He sprang to his feet and rushed through the open door. Next moment, Ben had his hands on the sheriff's throat.

To and fro they wrestled. Ben felt his enemy weakening. He had him at his mercy now. Suddenly a tremendous blow fell upon his head from behind. The last thing that he saw as his senses left him was the faint glimmer of the red light and Mollie's agonized face, in its aureole hair.

"Ben!"

"Mollie!"

He started out through the whirling phantasmagoria that surrounded him. He was dizzy and deathly sick. Gradually, as the fog cleared from his brain, he realized that he was lying in Mollie's room, and the face that he loved best in all the world was bending over him.

"Thank God he is coming to, Frank!"

"You had better leave him for the present," it was the voice of Merriman.

"Well, young fellow!" Merriman was scowling down at him. "You've done for yourself pretty well now," he continued. "If my nephew, Walt, hadn't had the gumption to come up at the right moment and snatch my rifle you'd have had a murder charge against you. I thought you were gone when I saw the whack he gave you that night."

"That night! When?"

"Two weeks ago tomorrow. Yep, I reckon you've kind of lost count of time," he continued, smiling less evilly. "You've been mighty near death, young fellow, let me tell you."

"Well, I guess you've won," said Ben feebly. "When are you going to take me back to the penitentiary?"

"When will you be ready to start?" he asked.

"You'll have to put me in a cart, I reckon," answered Ben. "Frank," he continued, "I'm likely to get a life sentence now and we aren't likely to meet again. I want to ask a promise of you. Treat Mollie well. She's the finest girl in the world, and if she was false to me—well, I reckon it was for your sake, Frank."

The sheriff stared at him. He went to the door and called the girl. Ben heard him whispering outside. And presently he was aware in his weakness, that Mollie was bending over him again.

"Ben!"

"Mollie!"

"Ben, dearest. Did you think I had betrayed you, Ben? Did you dare to think that I was untrue to you?"

He felt her tears drop on his hand. "Listen, Ben! You are free. Free to go where you will. When you escape the newspapers took up your case. They demanded that you should be set free. The governor was appealed to. He said that you had been punished enough. Your pardon arrived the week before you first came to the cabin. That was why I went to the mountain. I should have told you, but I wanted it to come as a surprise. That night Mr. Merriman was waiting here to hand it to you. You are free, Ben, free to go where you will—free to marry me—if you want to!"

VERMONT STATE NEWS.

The date of this year's Rutland fair has been set as September 4-9.

H. C. Campbell of Montpelier had one hand badly lacerated in a planner last week.

Business is booming at the Brighton Furniture Company's factory in Island Pond.

Rev. H. R. Goodchild has announced his resignation as pastor of the Baptist Church in Montgomery.

The Cahoe House Furnishing Company of Rutland has been incorporated with a capital of \$100,000.

Horace R. Woods of East Georgia has been appointed district highway commissioner for Franklin and Grand Isle counties.

Newbury loses a daughter of the American Revolution and one of its oldest citizens in the death of Mrs. Mary Bayley Wallace.

A Foote campaign club with 200 charted members has been formed in Montpelier. H. M. Farnham was elected president.

A dog belonging to Warren Dill of Craftsbury cornered a big mink a few nights ago and killed it. Young Dill sold the pelt for \$6.00.

Miss Lillian E. Peck, of the defunct firm of L. E. Peck & Company, brokers of Burlington, was placed in jail last week on a closed jail execution.

Bellows Falls has the promise of a new railroad station to take the place of the one destroyed by fire. Work is expected to be commenced on it in the spring.

Captain William Montgomery, one of the oldest and best known captains on Lake Champlain died March 14, at Isle La Motte. He was over 90 years old.

Three Arlington youths have been arraigned in Bennington municipal court and given stiff prison sentences for robbing summer homes and carrying off property.

Dr. P. A. Wakefield of Hardwick was recently elected president of the Vermont Veterinary Association, of which Dr. George Thomas of Wells River is the secretary.

Judge F. M. Butler decided not to risk it to have any women jurors drawn for the present term of Washington county court at Montpelier, on account of the constitutional questions involved.

Harry Ribolini of Center Rutland has just completed in nine weeks a bicycle trip from his home in Center Rutland to St. Petersburg, Florida. The most remarkable thing about it is that owing to his right leg being crippled the peddling for the entire trip was done with one foot.

The auto of Dr. H. L. Pierce of Swanton, coasted from in front the A. & P. store recently into the flume at the Barney marble mill and sank in 20 feet of water. The machine was recovered.

David D. Moode of Island Pond an automobile dealer has filed a voluntary petition in bankruptcy in the United States Court. He placed his liabilities at \$17,744 and assets at \$1,597 of which \$205 are claimed to be exempt.

Fred F. Dow of Mount Holly has brought suit in Rutland county court to recover \$10,000 from Amelia Newton of Athol, Mass., and W. H. McKillip of Castleton for alleged breach of contract in a lumber deal.

A sight that attracted considerable attention and comment during the recent cold snap was a sleigh drawn by a yoke of oxen which passed through the village of Cavendish bound from Chittenden to Perkinsville, a distance of 44 miles.

To Have Mission Drive

A meeting of representative Congregationalists from every association brought to Lamotte and Windsor was held recently to plan for the Congregational missionary canvass to take place from April 30 to May 7.

Turned Down YD. Appropriation

An article in the warning for town meeting in Bradford which sought an appropriation from the voters for a suitable tablet containing the names of the 238 Civil War veterans of that town was turned down, but it is probable that the money will be raised by popular subscriptions, so that the tablet may be erected as desired.

Big Power Project

With the advent of spring, big things are in prospect along the Connecticut river and once again the dream of a power development of stupendous proportions along the 15 mile falls which has been contemplated for the past ten years by North Country people, seems to be approaching realization, says the St. Johnsbury Caledonian.

Big Ice Jam At East Georgia

The ice jam south of the station, above the high railroad bridge, where cakes were 15 feet long and 30 to 36 inches thick, has attracted many sight seers. The river being low when the ice froze, even large stones are imbedded in the huge cakes of ice.

The lower part of the wooden covered bridge is splintered and it was moved six feet from the foundation. Only a large elm tree saved it from destruction. The bridge was built 47 years ago.

The road the north side of the bridge is blocked for about a quarter of a mile and four days were spent cutting out a roadway and the workmen said, would take another week before it is finished.

At least a hundred people visited the scene, Sunday. Mr. White's house is isolated from the main land and a barn on the opposite side of the river damaged.

JOHNSON

Robert Fields is working for Arthur Grow.

Mr. and Mrs. Joshua Miller have moved back to their farm.

Miss Mary Nye is home from Northfield Seminary for the Easter vacation.

Mr. Shonio of Rhode Island has purchased the Heath farm on the Cambridge road.

Mrs. Will Davis recently visited her mother, Mrs. Bert Lamphere, in North Hyde Park.

Rev. Roy E. Greene of Cambridge was a guest of Rev. G. R. Akers the first of the week.

Mrs. L. I. Bishop recently visited her daughter, Mrs. Daniel Montgomery, in Morrisville.

The wind blew off the chimney of Lemuel Grow's sugar house, doing considerable damage.

Richard Dyke went Thursday night to the Fanny Allen hospital for an operation for appendicitis.

Mrs. Winnie Baxendale of Burlington was a guest of Mrs. Hulda Livermore Friday and Saturday.

Clifford Chapman is working for O. H. Wilson and Ulrick Thompson for N. A. Waterman through the sugar season.

Charles Foster, who has been confined to his home with one knee which he cut some time ago, is able to be about the house.

Mr. and Mrs. Carmi Rushford have moved to Morrisville, where Mr. Rushford has employment in the United Farmers' Cooperative Creamery.

A special meeting of Johnson Chapter, No. 65, O. E. S., has been called for March 31. There will be initiatory work and refreshments will be served.

Philip Shavoneugh is carrying on the Boynton sugar place which is equipped with the Cary pipe line. Ernest Lapan has rented the Shavoneugh sugar place.

A great many people in town are ill with colds, the grip, etc. Walbridge Whiting spent the week-end in East Fairfield.

Miss Marion Barrows returned to Burlington Monday morning.

Mrs. Fred Howard is suffering with blood poisoning in one hand.

Mrs. Will Coolege went to Burlington Tuesday for a few days' stay.

Mrs. Nellie Muzzy attended a meeting of the W. R. C. in Morrisville last week.

Mrs. Ella Comstock of St. Johns, P. Q., is visiting her brother, Elmer Saich.

Miss Marion Brooks of Morrisville was a week-end guest of Miss Gertrude Young.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Flanders of North Hyde Park visited Sunday at H. H. Davis'.

The last number of the lecture course entertainment will take place Thursday, April 6.

The Oread Club will hold a food sale at the Nye store Saturday afternoon of this week.

The W. F. M. S. will meet with Mrs. E. E. Hopkins at the home of the late Miss Oakes.

The station is open from 8:30 to 11:30 a. m. and from 2:30 to 5:30 and 6:30 to 7:30 p. m.

Mrs. Angeline Harper of West Warren, Mass., is a guest of her niece, Mrs. William Laporte.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Thomas, who have been living at Alvin Demeritt's, have moved to Joel Stratton's.

Miss Susan Collins, who has spent about a year and a half in California, returned to her home last Tuesday.

Mrs. Willard Warren, who spent Sunday with Ila and Clifford Jaynes, returned to her home in Morrisville Monday.

Miss Aurah Richards went Tuesday to the Fanny Allen hospital to see Richard Dyke, who is very ill there with pneumonia.

The Kan-So Club was pleasantly entertained at the home of Miss Lillian Burleson Monday afternoon. New sugar was served.

JOHNSON OREAD CLUB NOTES

The last club tea of the year was held at the library Monday afternoon, March 13. The library was very attractively decorated with green crepe paper and Irish flags in honor of St. Patrick's Day. Bowls of jonquils and hyacinths added a touch of fragrance and beauty to the tables. Each member and guest were given a green satin bow decorated with golden shamrocks to wear. Preceding the program, Mrs. Nora Hill, president, took up several matters of business, among them the matter of making the final payment on the piano, purchased by the club this year. Mrs. Viola Stearns presented the plan of Americanization work of the State Federation and recommended that the club have a part in this very worthy plan. Five dollars was voted from the club treasury to match a gift of \$5.00 from Mrs. Stearns and sent as the club's contribution to the work.

After the business session, Mrs. Susan Nye took charge of the afternoon's program. A humorous poem on St. Patrick's Day and a very interesting sketch of the life and works of St. Patrick was given by Miss Lila Whipple. The song, "Come Back to Erin" by the club chorus and a solo, "Mother McCree," by Miss Ruth Burgess, accompanied by the club chorus, were rendered. The roll call was answered by Irish stories and anecdotes, some very amusing ones being given. Refreshments of sandwiches, pistachio-frosted cakes and tea were served by the hostesses, assisted by Miss Ruth Scott, Miss Helen Bennett, Miss Lorene Chapman and Miss Freda Hebb. These young ladies wore white dresses with sashes of green fastened with shamrock bows. About 42 members were present and a very enjoyable afternoon was spent. The hostesses were Mrs. Susan Nye, Mrs. Jennie Royce, Mrs. Carrie Smalley and Miss Lila Whipple.

The annual business meeting and election of officers was held Thursday evening, March 16. Mrs. Nora Hill, president, presented the matter of contributing to the Federation fund and to the children's aid. After a discussion it was decided to leave this matter to the finance committee and Mrs. Viola Stearns, chairman, said that she planned to have a food sale in the near future and that the receipts might be used for this purpose. It is hoped that this sale will be largely patronized. Reports of the year's work were read by the secretary, Mrs. Clara Farrington, and the treasurer, Mrs. Gertrude Odell. It is most gratifying to note from these reports that the piano is entirely paid for. An interesting report of the work done by the flower committee was given by Miss Josie Drowne, chairman. Mrs. Hill spoke of the fact that this work was highly appreciated and it was decided to continue it for another year. A new member on the building committee, Mrs. Hattie Pearl, was elected to take the place of Mrs. Minnie Hayford, who has completed her term of office. Following this, the report of the nominating committee was read by Mrs. Estelle Saleeby, and the following officers were elected: President, Miss Flossie Demeritt; vice president, Mrs. Helen Holcomb; secretary, Miss Lila Whipple; treasurer, Mrs. Gertrude Odell; board of directors, Mrs. Ruth MacDowell, Mrs. Ralph Mayo and Mrs. Nora Hill.

Death of Mrs. Florence Jaynes

The death of Mrs. Florence Jaynes occurred Thursday, March 16, at 1:35 a. m., after a brief illness with pneumonia, followed by heart failure. Her death came as a great shock to the people of this place as she was ill only a week. Mrs. Jaynes was a kind and loving mother and friend and will be greatly missed in the community. She leaves to mourn her loss her mother, Mrs. Lois Shattuck, aged 94 years; three children, Mrs. Vera Titus, and Ila and Clifford Jaynes; and three grandchildren, Mayford, Max and Vivian Titus. The funeral was held Saturday at 2:00 p. m. from the Congregational Church, the Rev. A. B. Ross, pastor of the church, officiating, assisted by the Rev. George Young, pastor of the Nazarene Church. The senior class of the Johnson High School, of which her son, Clifford, is a member, attended in a body. The flowers were many and beautiful, testifying to the love and sympathy of many friends. The bearers were R. H. Royce, R. C. Mayo, Chellis Collins, P. J. Titus, Louis Lambert and F. M. Ward. Those from out of town to attend the funeral were Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Morway of Essex Junction, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Woodruff of Jericho, Mrs. Edson Thomas of Jeffersonville, Mrs. Willard Warren of Morrisville, Mrs. Della Abell and Mrs. D. B. Stockwell of Waterville and Clifton and P. T. Denio of Hyde Park.

Interment was in Lamoille View cemetery beside her husband, Nelson Jaynes, who died a few years ago. Much sympathy is extended to the bereaved family.

JOHNSON CHURCHES

Congregational Church

Services on Sunday next as follows: Preaching Sunday morning at 10:45 followed by Sunday School at noon. Sunday evening preaching and Christian Endeavor service at seven and eight respectively.

Methodist Church

There was no preaching service last Sunday morning, but Sunday School was held at the usual hour with a good attendance.

It is expected there will be preaching next Sunday. Watch the bulletin board for further announcement.

Sunday School will be held at noon. Wednesday evening prayer meeting will be held with Mrs. May Walker at 7:30.

The W. F. M. S. will meet Thursday evening of this week at 7:30 with Mrs. E. E. Hodgkins at the home of Miss Anna L. Oakes. Let every member come.

Sunday evening preaching and Christian Endeavor service in the church at seven and eight.

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When you pay a bill by check you pay once.
When you pay a bill by cash you may pay twice.
Why not start a check account with us and be sure to have a receipt for every expenditure.
We furnish all necessary forms upon request.

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VERMONT STATE NEWS

There are 39 cases set for the jury at the March term of Washington county court.

Peter De Fove, aged 82, of Waterbury was struck by a falling tree and instantly killed last week.

The first new maple sugar to appear in the market at Middlebury retailed for 50 cents a pound.

Mrs. Amos Gates, 83, mother of State Auditor Gates, died last week at her home in Brandon.

The capital stock of Jones, Lamson Company at Springfield has been doubled by a stock dividend. This is Governor Hartness' Company.

Jessie Maxfield of Northfield pleaded guilty to a charge of arson in Washington county court. Her case was continued for sentence. The offense was setting of a fire in Maxfield mill at Northfield.

Walden Child Ate Poison

The two-year-old daughter of Amedio Tanguay has lost the use of her legs and is suffering convulsions as the results of eating poison tablets. The child climbed up in a chair recently and took from a shelf a bottle of tablets containing what was probably arsenic. Part of these she ate and fed some to a dog. Within an hour the dog was dead and the child critically ill.

First Vermont Creamery

The report that the Stratford Creamery was the first in Vermont is not correct. The Vershire Creamery Association was formed and the creamery built in 1890. Floren Darling was the first creamery man and F. D. Richardson secretary and treasurer.

Wild Boys

Maurice English and Frank Bates, aged 14 years, and Willard Cheever, aged 15, all of Keene, N. H., were arrested last week, charged with breaking into the Richardson store in Roxbury and taking several articles of wearing apparel, as well as pipes, smokes and food. They were hungry they claimed when they reached Roxbury and were without proper footwear. Then, seeing these things in the window, they broke into the store and took them.

Fished Out of Season

The state fish and game commissioner has been notified of two convictions for offenses against the game laws, one for trapping mink out of season and the other for shooting muskrats. Paul Premo of Elmore paid a fine of \$20 and costs following his arrest by Warden J. T. Stevens of Hyde Park. On February 25, Warden Stevens found six traps set for mink.

George Mayo of Bridport was fined \$20 and costs of \$2.25 by Justice M. F. Barnes at Chimney Point following his arrest by Warden Floyd F. Tatro of Vergennes for shooting muskrats. The arrest took place at Addison.

Another View of Selfishness.

Selfishness does not always apply to the man who is unwilling to share his belongings with others, but it also applies to the man who may have some practical ideas and will not pass them on to his neighbor.

For Sale

14 New and Second-Hand Harnesses
Driving and Work Harnesses in the lot

F. W. Leslie

JOHNSON VERMONT

? ? ? ? ?

Who is your jeweler, and can your jeweler tell you all about the article you are selecting from his store?

If not, plan to do your spring shopping in Johnson where prices are reasonable. Before buying Gifts That Last elsewhere consult me in regard to prices, quality and guarantee.

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