

The Detective

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by William Johnston
Illustrations by Y. Barnes

CYNOPSIS.

Having Kent calls on Louise Parrish to provide marriage and find the hope in a professional over the attempted suicide of Hugh Crandall. Kent reveals the investigation and finds that Hugh Crandall had called on Louise Parrish and had talked to her in the house of General Parrish. Just before she had herself strangled with yellow paper in a room which General Parrish is now convinced that Crandall had left town hurriedly. Louise Parrish, Kent's friend, who attempted to save the same time as Katherine Parrish. Kent's friend, who attempted to save the same time as Katherine Parrish. Kent's friend, who attempted to save the same time as Katherine Parrish.

Quarter a man alive, poor molten metal into his eyeballs, feed him salt fish and cut off water, burn him alive in quicklime, devise what torture you will and double it, the pain and agony can not equal that which comes to a man who, believing in and trusting and loving a woman with his whole heart, is forced to admit to himself that she has deceived him—that she has lied to him. In those awful hours I came to know the seven heads I went through all of them.

Only one ray of comfort came to me as I had asked myself "Why did she lie?" I found myself believing that she had done so, not of her own free will, but impelled by some motive so powerful that she could not resist it. That it was the influence of Crandall I could not doubt. He had so preyed on her fears for her father and sister, perhaps on her fear for me, that he had induced her to try to persuade me to give up my investigation and had made her promise to accompany him in some doubtful secret mission.

"It is not my secret."

I recalled the piteous cry my entrance had wrung from her lips, and I found the logical explanation of it in her having been terrorized by that villain, Crandall. If I could have found him at the moment he had killed him with my naked hands.

Yet even though I was convinced that Louise had lied to me, I began to feel that whatever she had done, what ever she was now doing, was in the belief that she was acting for the best for her dear ones, for me.

My duty to her, my duty to myself, I reasoned, demanded that I do my utmost to solve the hideous mystery and free her from the fear that I was sure was responsible for her strange actions. I swung off the train at Ardway and hastened to the hotel, eager to tell Davis what I had learned about the movements of Hugh Crandall, but Davis was not there. All that I could learn was that he had hired a horse and buggy early in the morning and had driven off in the direction taken by Crandall the day before.

"If he is following Crandall's trail," said I to myself, "is not a day too late."

So long as Davis was not about I decided I might as well see if the miss- ing mail had been found. As I walked up the street I could not help thinking how dumfounded Davis would be when he returned from his fruitless chase for Crandall and listened to my tale of Crandall's actions. While he had advised against my return to the city, he would have to admit that it had not been without result.

CHAPTER XI.
More Discoveries.

The worse the injury the less it hurts at the moment. I once saw a man with both legs cut off laughing and joking with the men who pulled him from under a cart. Though he died in ten minutes, I doubt if he suffered half as much as if he had bumped his head or run a splinter under his thumb nail. It is when you



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Countryman's Notion.

"I'm seeing a water cart for the first time—Dang me, Halbert, if these Lunnun chaps ain't smart! Just look what that fellers fixed up at the back of his wagon to keep boys from hangin' on 'em!"—London Sketch.

RASH ON FACE FOR 2 YEARS

Stoux Falls, S. D.—"My trouble of skin disease started merely as a rash on my face and neck, but it grew and kept getting worse until large scabs were on my face and neck. I would form, fever and break (I was just on the one side of my face, but it soon scattered to the other side. I suffered a great deal, especially at night, on account of its itching and burning. I would scratch it and of course that irritated it very much. This rash was on my face for about two years, sometimes breaking out lots worse and forming larger sores. It kept me from sleeping day or night for a couple of months. My face looked disfigured and I was almost ashamed to be seen by my friends.

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"I saw Hugh Crandall leaving this house not ten minutes ago."

are mortally hurt and live that the pain becomes so terrible.

In the few minutes I had had with Louise I had not realized the depth of the wound in my heart her conduct toward me had made. Even when she saw her dash away from me in an automobile, pained though I was that interview would have been cut short.

I still did not comprehend what a terrible blow it was that had befallen me. It was the sight as I left the ferry of the automobile dash which Louise had had.

Crandall had been in the house. She had seen him. She had left me to join him. She had even deserted her father's sister and her dying father to go with him. And all the while her lips had protested that no one had been in the house but the doctors and nurses.

As I paced the platform and paced it back again, waiting two weary hours for an Ardway train, as I sat for two unending hours more on the long distance train from New Jersey, like a poisoned knife, cutting my heart to shreds and cutting the sinews, the thought kept coming back to me over and over: "She lied to me."

Tact Better Than Command

Good Idea to Let "Less Criticism and More Comradeship" Be Your Guiding Motto.

"Less criticism and more comradeship," would be a helpful maxim for all of us.

It is easy enough to be pleasant to the casual acquaintance, but the great difficulty lies in being decent to those who are devoted to us—to those who are ever willing to forgive our shortcomings. There is no duty above treating your friends courteously and trying to illuminate the general monotony of the lives of those who love.

In home life tact will succeed often where command will fail. Suggestions will go farther than arguments. Direction is so much better than dictation. Criticism of loved ones is a vice that besets the possessor of one like a stimulant of a drug once it is encouraged. It may begin in our so-

called high moral standard and hatred of sin. But once it becomes a habit, it is indulged in for the satisfaction it affords.

An Eden can be ruined by constant fault-finding, selfishness, and withholding the words of praise. A paradise can be spoiled by small kindnesses and by thinking sweet and helpful thoughts of those about you.

The next time you feel like criticizing a friend, pause a moment to see if something complimentary to him is due. Try it and see if you won't be happier.

Exactly.

"Do you believe that poverty is comparative?"

"It must be when a girl complains that she cannot afford to have more than one diamond necklace for 'six couples.'"

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can do some good work with that handy tool, but a real Carpenter uses a Modern Chest of Tools and the right raw materials.

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