

"The Crevice"

By Wm. J. Burns and Isabel Ostrander

A Real Detective Story by the World's Greatest Detective. A Fascinating Love Story Intertwined with the Tangled Threads of Mystery. Copyright, 1916, W. J. Watt Company. Newspaper rights by International News Service

"Mr. Rockmore, you were born in Staffordshire, England, were you not? Near a place called Handsworth?"

The unexpected question brought a meditative frown to the other man's brow, but he replied readily enough: "Yes, at Handsworth Castle, to be exact. But I can't quite gather what bearing that insignificant fact has upon your amazing chase this morning?"

"You are the only son of Gerald Cecil Rockmore, third son of the Earl of Stafford?" The detective did not appear to have heard the protest of the man he was interrogating.

"Precisely. But what?" "There were, then, four lives between you and the title, Blaine interrupted, tersely. "But we remain your father and grandfather. Your uncle died, both of sudden attacks of heart-disease, and curiously enough, both deaths occurred while they were visiting at Handsworth Castle."

"That is quite true," the cynical banter was gone from Rockmore's tones, and he spoke with a peculiar, hushed evenness, as if he waited, on guard, for the next thrust. "Lord Ashfrith, your father's oldest brother, and next in line to the old Earl, was seated in the garden of the castle, sipping a brandy and soda, and carving a peach-stone. Twenty minutes before, you had bought the peaches in from the garden and eaten them with him. He was sowing you how, in his boyhood, he had carved a watch-charm from a peach-stone, and you were close at his side when he suddenly fell over dead. Two years later, your Uncle Alaric, heir to the earldom since his older brother was out of the way, dropped dead at a hunt breakfast. You were seated next him."

"Are you trying to insinuate that I had anything to do with these deaths?" Rockmore still spoke quietly, but there was a slight tremor in his tones, and his face looked suddenly gray and leaden in the gloom of the leaping flames.

"I am recalling certain facts in your family history. When your Uncle Alaric died, he had just set down his cordial glass, which had contained peach brandy. An odd coincidence, wasn't it, that both of these men died with the odor of peaches about them, an odor which incidentally you had provided in both cases, for it is you who suggested the peach brand as a cordial at the hunt breakfast, and induced your uncle to partake of it."

"It was a coincidence, as you say. I had not thought of it before. The Englishman moistened his lips nervously, as if they suddenly felt dry. "Uncle Alaric was a heavy, full-blooded man, and he had ridden hard that morning, contrary to the doctor's orders. I suggested the brandy as a brace, I remember."

"An unfortunate suggestion, isn't it?" Blaine asked, significantly. The other man made no reply.

"There was another coincidence," the detective pursued relentlessly. "The brandy-and-soda, which Lord Ashfrith was drinking at the moment of his death, was naturally a palam-

ber color. So was the brand which your Uncle Alaric drank as he died. And Prussic acid is amber-colored, too. Mr. Rockmore! Lord Ashfrith was carving a peach-stone when he died, and the odor of peach brandy, and the same odor hovered about him in death. Prussic acid is potent of the odor of peaches."

Rockmore started from his chair. "I understand what you are attempting to establish by the flimsiest of circumstantial evidence!" he snarled. "But you are away beyond your own, my man! May I ask where you obtained this interesting but scarcely valuable information?"

"From Scotland Yard, by cable today," Blaine rose and faced the other man. "An investigation was started into the second death, when the Earl's request, that it was dropped for lack of evidence, about that time, Mr. Rockmore, you decided rather suddenly, and for no apparent reason, to come to America, here you have remained ever since."

"Mr. Blaine, if I were in the mood to be facetious, I might employ your American vernacular to ask that you tell me something I don't know! Come to the point, man; try my patience."

"In view of recent developments, I am under the impression that Scotland Yard would welcome your reappearance on British soil, but fear that will be forever impossible. Blaine said slowly. "Just as you were beside your uncle when each met him at his end, so you were beside Peniston Lawton when death came to him. That has been proved. Just as you and soda, and peach brandy, and amber-colored, so are Scotch whiskeys, which you and Peniston Lawton were drinking. No order of peas lingered about the room, for M. Lawton had lighted a handful of Josticks in a vase upon the mantel in the evening, and their pungent perfume permeated the room when they bottle which you hid in the folds of the chair was uncorked—thunder of peaches rose above the stifling mortifying flesh, when the body your victim was exhumed late tonight for a belated autopsy! The threat would have revealed the truth had there been no corroborative evidence, for it was filled with arterial blood—inconvertible proof of de by prussic-acid poisoning."

There was a tense pause, when Rockmore spoke sharply, voice strained to the breaking point. "If you are so certain of my guilt, Blaine, why have you come me secretly here and now? What price?" "I have no price," the great detective answered, simply. "Then why did you not arrest at once? Why this purposeless review?" "Because," Blaine paused, a when he spoke again, a solemn h almost of pity, had crept into tones. "You come of a fine old Mr. Rockmore, of a splendid r Your grandfather, the aged Earl,

living only in the past, proud of the record of his forebears. Your father is a soldier and statesman, valuable to the nation; his younger brother, Cedric, has achieved deserved fame and glory in the Boer war. There remains only you. For the sake of the innocent who must suffer with you, I have come to you tonight, that you may have an opportunity to—prepare yourself. In the morning I must arrest you. My duty is plain."

As he uttered the words, the craven fear which had struggled through the malicious sneer on the other man's face faded as if an obliterating hand had passed across his brow, and a look of indomitable courage and resignation took its place. There was something akin to nobility in his expression as he turned to the detective with head proudly erect and shoulders squared. "I thank you, Mr. Blaine," he said, simply. "I understand. I shall not fall then—the others! You have been far more generous to me than I deserve. And now—good-night. You will find me here when you come in the morning."

But in the morning Henry Blaine did not carry out his expressed intention. Instead, he sat at his desk, staring at the headlines in a paper spread out before him. The Honorable Bertrand Rockmore had been found dead on the floor of his den, with a bullet through his head. He would never allow his man to touch his guns, and had been engaged in cleaning one of them, as was his custom, in preparation for his annual shooting trip to Florida, when in some fashion it had been accidentally discharged. "I wonder if I did the right thing!" mused Blaine. "He had the courage to do it, after all. Blood will tell, in the end."

[To Be Continued.]

SPEAKS TO PHYSICIANS

Dr. George W. McCaskey, of Fort Wayne, will address members of the Wayne County Medical Society at the meeting in the Commercial club rooms Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Notices of the session have been issued by Dr. A. J. Whallon, secretary.

FILE INCORPORATION PAPERS

Incorporation papers for the United Refrigerator company were filed at the county recorder's office Saturday.

SEATS RESERVED HERE FOR INDIANA GAME

Alumni and friends of Indiana university from Richmond who wish to see the Indiana-Tufts game at Indianapolis on Oct. 28, may reserve their seats in Richmond this week.

A block of fifty grandstand seats, among the best at Washington park, has been reserved for Richmond. Information regarding these may be obtained from Hassal T. Sullivan at the Palladium office.

Further announcement was made today by Mr. Sullivan after conference with Ralph V. Sollitt, alumni secretary of the university, that motion pictures of the Indiana-V. and L. game last year and of the game at the university last spring would be exhibited at the Palace theatre here in the near future.

News of SOCIETY

Twenty-seven members of the Richmond Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in addition to several guests motored to Brookville Saturday and were entertained to luncheon at the Valley House by Mrs. Jennie Yaryan, the guide for the day. After luncheon the guests went to the pretty old home of Mrs. Yaryan where the hostess presented her paper on "Brookville." The old mahogany in which the home is furnished and its many other embellishments dating back into the years makes the home of more than ordinary interest. A niece of Mrs. Yaryan who resides in the home place assisted in entertaining the guests. Mrs. Yaryan's paper was splendid. Later the guests motored to Oldenberg where they visited the convent and were guided to the art galleries and other interesting places about the convent by the Sister Superior. The guests returned home by the way of Connersville some of them enjoying a picnic supper in nearby groves.

Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Chenoweth and daughter Helen, of Glen Karn, Ohio, are spending the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Barr and family, North Seventeenth street.

A miniature automobile horn blown by pressing an electric button has been invented to replace door bells.

DROPS TO FREEZING

Once during the last week, the temperature dropped below the freezing point, while on several other occasions it hung perilously near. The report of temperatures as compiled by the government observer at the waterworks pumping station follows:

	Max.	Min.
Sunday	70	35
Monday	70	35
Tuesday	84	52
Wednesday	84	64
Thursday	64	59
Friday	59	34
Saturday	55	30

GET SPEAKERS

[Continued from page One]

public utility committees to subscribe. One of these was depended upon as a certainty.

This, however, will in no way discourage the workers but will make them more determined to reach the goal, Mr. McFarland said. Committees, he said, believe that there are still hundreds of persons in Richmond who desire to be a part in this movement, and that they will subscribe when the opportunity is given.

The traveling men acted as a body Saturday night in voting at the meeting of the Travelers' Protective association to subscribe \$200 to the fund. The question was presented to the association by W. H. Bockhoff. The Odd Fellows' Building association has subscribed \$100.

A letter is being sent out today to lodges generally to consider the question of subscribing to the fund, and of taking part in the big rally next Friday night.

Many of the committee workers are doing some canvassing at odd times, and several have called at the Commercial club rooms to make a subscription.

Sloan's Liniment for Neuralgia Aches

The dull throb of neuralgia is quickly relieved by Sloan's Liniment, the universal remedy for pain. Easy to apply; it quickly penetrates without rubbing and soothes the sore muscles. Cleaner and more promptly effective than musky plasters or ointment; does not stain the skin or clog the pores. For stiff muscles, chronic rheumatism, gout, lumbago, sprains and strains it gives quick relief. Sloan's Liniment reduces the pain and inflammation in insect bites, bruises, bumps and other minor injuries to children. Get a bottle today at your Druggist, 25c. —Adv.

WANT TO FLY? HERE'S CHANCE

Wanted—A man to fly. Recruiting Sergeant Bond has received instructions to secure Richmond young men for the aviation corps of the United States army. Only men with experience in handling gasoline engines or with mechanical experience will be accepted. The signal corps needs experienced telegraph and telephone men.

The last boundary monument between the United States and Canada has been set. The work has been going on for 100 years.

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VESSEL TO TEACH MEMBERS OF CHURCH HOW TO LIVE TODAY

One hundred members of First Methodist church greeted Rev. Dressel yesterday in a combined day school and church service. Dressel arrived here last week to head Rev. E. G. Howard and today in charge of the parsonage, 110 South Eleventh street.

At the congregation of the church he met to teach the historic first, the members were listening. Rev. Dressel this morning, "I have come to preach the living, ruling Christ. I am not going to tell you what you should do, I am going to tell you what you should be. I am going to tell you what you should be a Christian life."

FIRST METHODISTS SHOW GAIN OF 105

Although the mass of 500 was not reached, Rally day at First M. E. Sunday school yesterday was regarded as successful with 105 more present than attended a year ago. (Rev. H. C. Harman) spoke "What Owe to the Sunday School?" He said there is an obligation to the Sunday school as an educational institution and as a field for mortification, particularly from a temperance standpoint, the attention of pupils being directed to the unfortunate effects of alcoholic drinks which they are young. The Sunday School is the greatest angelic field of the church," said H. Harman. "As soon as children old enough to appreciate the things, their minds are directed to proper channel."

FLAG RAISING

[Continued From Page One]

led exclusively by Southern patriots. He made it plain that he had no grievance against a South declared that it was entirely to administrate the fears of government for the especial benefit of one section. He alluded to the fact that the theoretical congress, in frame, the revised tariff bill, had placed most of the products of the north on the list while southern products, for most part, were provided with protection. His evening a Republican will hold in Cambridge City, Indiana, address being delivered by J. Allen of Kansas. Allen is introduced by Judge Stock. Session of the Richmond Club will leave for Cambridge City at 11 p. m., from the location on, on a special interurban car.

Why shop around among small stocks and limited assortments and pay more? When Richmond's Underselling store offers:

New Arrivals! Exclusive Styles!

\$16.50 Fall Suits

Dozens of beautiful, new fur-trimmed serge, new belted and plated effects, new length coats and military collars, full flared cut, de Cygne lined, every style is here; all sizes. \$10.75

\$16.50 Fall Coats

Hundreds of beautiful wool mixtures in new flare styles, velvet trimmed and a few with collars, garments that are the reproductions of \$25 models, all the patterns, all sizes to choose from. \$9.75

\$25.00 Fall Suits

A large variety of new styles in new serges, poplins, gabardines, hipcoats, belted or tailored, fur or plush trimmed, new military collars. \$16.50

\$20.00 Fall Coats

New novelties, velourines, mixtures, pebble chevrons, in a wealth of patterns, many fur trimmings that will create some season this sale tomorrow. \$12.95

\$15.00 ERGE DRESSES

ool serges and silk, plated effects, braid trimmed, a beautiful sash; also beautiful new satins, Russian house, straight line, tunics, all rich autumn colorings; sale. \$8.95

\$5.00 Skirts \$10 Dresses

new fall serge skirts in lustrous silk poplins, green, navy, blue, come up in the new black and gray, all shades; to \$10 w arrivals. \$2.95

\$6.00 Skirts \$30 Coats

Poplins and velvet, also checks and stripes; extra fine quality; all sizes. \$3.95

\$19.50

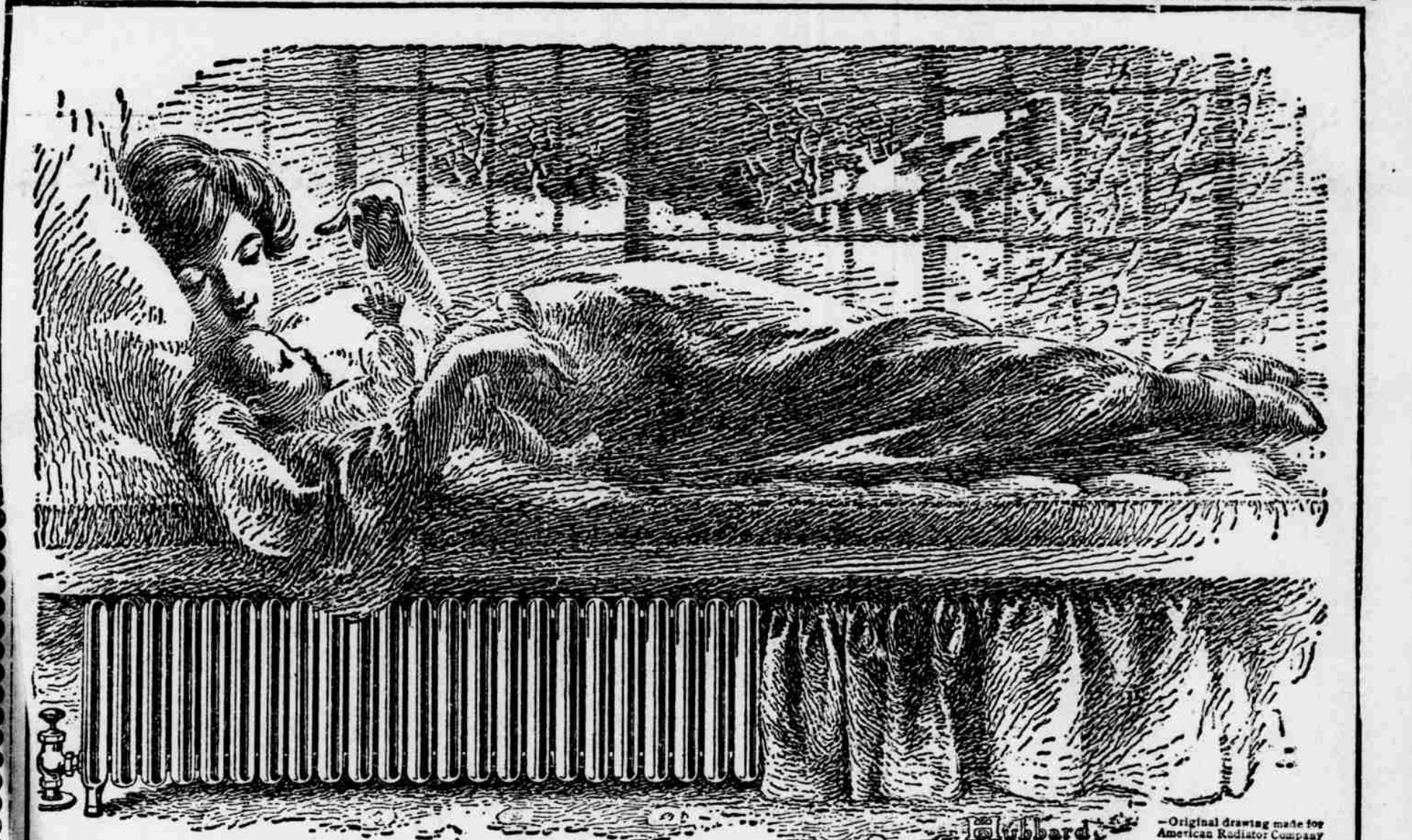
Beautiful new Salt's Plush Coats with guaranteed satin linings, trimmed in imitation beaver and opossum.

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