



ILLUSTRATIONS BY IRWIN MYERS.

CHAPTER SEVEN.

In Which High Voltage Develops in the Conversation.

It was a warm, bright May day. There was not a cloud in the sky. Roger Delane had arrived and the Bings were giving a dinner that evening.

"Heavens! I'm tired!" she exclaimed. "These women in Hazelmead hang onto one like a lot of hungry cats. They all want money for one thing or another—Red Cross or Liberty bonds or fatherless children or tobacco for the soldiers or books for the library. My word, I'm broke and it seems as if each of my legs hung by a thread."

"How beautiful you look!" the fond mother exclaimed. "If he didn't propose to-day, he's a chump."

"Let him sit for it then and, mother, you might as well know, first as last, that I am not playing with him."

There was a calm note of firmness in the voice of the girl. She was prepared for this scene. She had known it was coming. Her mother was hot with irritating astonishment.

"It means that I am married, mother."

"To Gordon King?"

"Mother, I'm glad you say that," the girl answered still very calmly, although her fingers trembled a little as she felt the violets, and her voice was not quite steady.



MARY GRAHAM BONNER

THE THREE CAMELS.

"Hello," said Camel One, "here we are in the big city. It is quite a contrast from our desert home."

"It is indeed," said Camel Two. "But I am glad the weather is a little milder. The other night when we were walking down to our stable home it was snowy and rainy and very chilly."

"It seems strange," said Camel Three, "that they cannot get enough people to act. It seems strange that they need us too."

"That shows how important camels are. And they've always said we weren't very bright. If we weren't very bright we could never have gone on the stage."

"We didn't go on the stage with our brains," said Camel One. "We walked there with our long legs."

"Now the three camels were going to a theater which was being played about the desert. Every day the Camels were walked up to the theater and every evening after the theater was out they were walked down to their stable."

"Ah," said Camel Three, "we must have some brains or we couldn't have gone on the stage. I don't mean that we couldn't have walked on it but we couldn't have really acted on it."

"We have some brains," said Camel One, "but not many. They are what you call few and far between."

"Brains aren't few and far between. What brains a creature has are near together, in the head," said Camel Three.

"Oh, very well," said Camel One. "I think," said Camel Three, "it takes a great actor to be able to walk across the stage properly. Poor actors and actresses look like sticks."

"I have never seen one look like a stick," said Camel One. "All the actors and actresses I've seen have had arms and legs and faces and hair too. Sticks don't have all that."

"You're absurd," said Camel Three. "I mean that actors and actresses who are poor at their work are just about as awkward as sticks. Of course they aren't really sticks."

"Then I wish," said Camel One, "you wouldn't talk in that way. I got quite excited thinking about actors and actresses who looked like sticks, quite excited. And I don't wish to get excited."

"You don't have to," said Camel Three. "But if you say things like that I must," said Camel One.

"You don't have to at all," said Camel Three. "Just say to yourself, 'Now look here, Camel, no matter what Camel Three says, you mustn't get excited.'"

"I'll try that," said Camel One. And he began saying over and over to himself, "Now look here, Camel, no matter what Camel Three says, you mustn't get excited."

"Ah," said Camel Three, "they couldn't have had this play without us. We have gone into circuses it is true, but now we have also gone on the stage. We've been a part of a play and a most important part."

"A most important part," said Camel Two, "sometimes like the scenery. Most important."

"We aren't scenery," said Camel Three. "We're camels."

"Well, I know that," said Camel Two. "No one knows better than I do that I am a camel. But still I heard some one say we were a part of the scenery. So we must be. We are part of the scenery as well as being camels. We're more than we thought we were."

"For some one said, 'Those camels are such a beautiful part of the scenery.' Now what do you make of that?"

"I make of that," said Camel Three, "that we made the scene much more real. Just as if they were giving a play with a scene in a children's nursery. It would be suitable, wouldn't it, to have a few children around now, wouldn't it? In the same way it is suitable to have us in this play."

BIGHAM SENTENCED TO CHAIR

Florence Murderer Was the Killer of Five People.

The jury in the case of Edmund Bigham, charged with the murder of five members of his family at Pamlico, in Florence county in January, on yesterday afternoon returned a verdict of guilty, and Judge Memminger promptly overruling a motion for a new trial, sentenced the condemned man to die in the electric chair between the hours of 10 and 2 o'clock on Friday, April 8.

Bigham turned pale when the verdict was read and his face lost the smile that it had worn during the trial, but when asked what he had to say before being sentenced, he leaned forward from the dock and in a clear and unshaken voice replied:

"I know nothing of how this crime was committed. That is the truth, so help me, God!"

"That's all I have to say," continued Bigham, who was charged with shooting his brother, mother, sister and the latter's two adopted children. "I wish my mother could come down and tell how that thing happened. I wish that little boy had lived when I asked Dr. W. H. Poston to save his life. He would have told the same things my wife and I told."

"Judge, I hope you will give me time so some of the people who testified here against me may have a chance to come forward and tell the truth and not come too late, like Judas making his offering of the thirty pieces of silver."

"Do hope to say something more, and I hope you will take no exception to it. As far as you are concerned, I have had a fair trial, but if people had had time to think things over, consider and take it up with their God, they would have testified differently."

Edmund Bigham, defendant in one of the most sensational cases ever tried in this county, which he is charged with murder in connection with the deaths of his brother Smiley and four other members of his family in Florence county went on the stand in his own defense last Saturday.

According to the stand at the afternoon session were his wife and his 14-year-old daughter, Louise. The testimony of the members of the Bigham family, which had been expected drew an even larger crowd of spectators than had marked previous sessions of the trial.

Mrs. Bigham told in much detail the story of the happenings at the Bigham home on January 16, the day of the tragedy, in which Mrs. M. M. Bigham, the defendant's mother; Mrs. Margie Black, his sister; L. Smiley Bigham, a brother and Leo and John McCracken, adopted children of Mrs. Black, were the victims. She gave her testimony as if reading from a notebook and even under cross-examination by Solicitor Gasque showed no signs of nervousness.

Louise Bigham, the young daughter also told a story that duplicated that of her mother's, except in minor details. Her memory failed in some details vitally affecting her father's defense. When called upon to recognize Detective Eilberger and say whether or she had made certain statements to him, she disowned ever having seen the detective.

Edmund Bigham gave a detailed story of his actions from January 8 to the time of the death of his wife. He spoke in a clear voice and appeared to have an excellent memory for details. The continuity of his story was broken, however, when he reached the cross-examination stage and when a question came up that was not easily answered, he would turn toward Solicitor Gasque, asking him to "hold on a minute," or "just wait."

Breaks into Sobs. When he described the finding of his brother's body, Bigham showed the first sign of feeling, breaking into sobs, and it was several minutes before he could continue.

Bigham made a statement concerning the financial affairs of the family telling of loans he had made and of clearing his name from the estate. The family owed him, he said, something like \$26,000 and he had given them a mortgage covering the difference between that amount and \$47,000, the amount named in the face of the deed made him by the rest of the family. It was this deed, he said, his wife sought to record the day he was placed in jail.

On cross examination Bigham was asked why he had kept this deed in his possession after it had been refused. He declared that Mr. Spears, of Darlington, had told him to keep the deed, but admitted Mr. Spears never had seen the paper. "Didn't he tell you to destroy that deed or it would break your neck?"

"He didn't," replied the witness, "if he had I would have done it." The reply caused a roar of laughter in the courtroom and resulted in Judge Memminger declaring a recess until 8 o'clock p. m.

With sobbing voice, the defendant told of how he had seen his mother staggering in the yard, her face covered with blood. He had just returned from a short trip to Robert Foxworth to see him about hauling some wood. When he had left the house, he said, his brother, standing near some birches.

"The last time I saw Smiley was right there," he said, "as I came at the top of the red hill, I saw Smiley, his hand in front of his eyes and he was running. About sixty yards from the house, I saw mother."

Describing incidents about the house the morning after the tragedy, Bigham said that shortly after daylight he opened the blinds and then went out to the lot with Mr. Flowers. "He says I gave him a pistol; I take his word for it, for I don't know. Between me and my God I never went out of that yard from that time till Sunday night. I don't remember telling the searchers the reaction to take to find Smiley's body. I did tell the direction I had seen him going."

Sam Haynes, a witness for the defense testified to finding tracks which he believed to have been made by Bigham. Bigham standing in the direction towards the woods where Smiley's body was found. He had followed these tracks which he said, matched the shoes on the dead man's body.

Haynes testified he had found a wash station in Edmund's room forced open and expressed the belief Smiley had taken a pearl handled pistol from it.

McWhite and E. A. Hinds also testified to seeing the tracks described by Haynes, but the latter would not have the footprints would not have shown if Smiley had gone to the woods by the route described by Edmund.

Joseph Hyman, another witness testified he heard a shot in the direction of the Bigham home at 7 o'clock the night Bigham was with him when he heard the shot, he said, and he had advised the searchers to go in the direction from which he heard the shot. B. H. Williams also testified to having heard this shot.

R. L. Basson swore that Smiley Bigham had told him he "was broke and

would rather be dead than like he was."

Mrs. May Bigham, wife of the defendant, took the stand after the noon and told the story of the day of the tragedy. She said her husband and his brother Smiley had gone into the wood and did not come back for dinner. When Edmund came home, she said, he ate and dressed and the family started to Pamlico in an automobile.

On the way back home, the witness said, they saw Smiley crossing the road towards the woods and the elder Mrs. Bigham coming from the house. She said Edmund threw his arms around about his mother and took her back of the house, and that Mr. Garrison assisted him in carrying her body and that of the little boy into the house.

Mrs. Bigham swore her husband did not leave the house the night after the killing. She identified the pearl handled revolver as belonging to her husband and testified that, so far as she knew, it was in a drawer on the day of the killing.

Testifying about the deeds to the Bigham property, the witness said when she took the deed from the clerk of the court she hid it in an out-house near Pamlico and it was her intention to try to keep the deed. She found the will of Mrs. Black, one of those killed, she said, after the tragedy and had given it to Attorney King. She also admitted she had slipped a bottle of chloroform to her husband while he was in jail, but said she had no idea he wanted to commit suicide.

On cross-examination Mrs. Bigham said her husband did not leave the premises while she was preparing breakfast the morning after the tragedy. She denied that her husband abused his mother and sister on January 8, as testified by state's witness. Mrs. Black had left the house and gone to Mrs. Kirtlan's, she said, but she did not know when Mrs. Bigham and the children left the house.

SHOULD NOT ENTER LEAGUE Negative Team Wins in Debate on Interesting Subject at Clover.

Clover, March 25—A decision of judges in favor of the negative defenders of the question was rendered here last night following the debate on the query, "Resolved, That the United States Should Join the League of Nations."

The debate was the principal feature of the programme of the Presley Literary Society of Clover High School presented at the Clover opera house to a large and appreciative audience.

Taking the affirmative side of the question were Grace Page, Margaret Thomas, Eugene Barrett and Ethel Ritch. Speakers opposed to the entry of the country into the league were Vera Hambrick, Seulestine Hagan, John Pressley Smith and George Bailes.

Following the invocation, exercises of the evening were opened with music "Carolina" followed by a brief address welcome by the president of the literary society.

Miss Cora Williams read the roll call of "South Carolina's Great Men," and Miss Margaret Clinton delivered a recitation, "What Constitutes a State."

Willie McCarter read a sketch of the "Life of John C. Calhoun," and Miss Grace Page, read a paper, "South Carolina in the Revolution."

Miss Roberta Moore recalled "South Carolina in the World War," W. B. Moore gave a reading "God Give Us Men," and Miss Martha Jackson delivered a selection, "The Land of the South."

Following the debate a piano solo which was followed by "An Appreciation"—Philip Jackson. The exercises of the evening were concluded with a song, "The Star Spangled Banner."

Debating League Representatives. It is announced that Margaret Thomas and Ethel Ritch will represent Clover High School in the South Carolina Debating League as the affirmative team and Seulestine Hagan and George Bailes as the negative team.

WATCH OUT FOR THEM. Swindlers Are Seeking to Fleece Ex-service Men.

Swindlers are seeking to extort \$5 from ex-service men in return for obtaining for them articles of uniform and equipment to which they are entitled from the government, according to information received by the American Legion. The adjutant general has appealed to the legion to aid in frustrating the plans of the bunco men.

The government, according to the adjutant general, is required by law to provide to veterans of the World War certain articles of clothing and equipment, if they were not issued on discharge. Eligible ex-service men should get in touch with the nearest quarter-master depot, post of the American Legion or write direct to the Quarter-master general of the army, Washington, D. C. It is not necessary to pay a cent to anyone to obtain the missing articles.

FLYING WARSHIPS Great Britain Will Build Planes of Entirely New Type.

Details of an entirely new type of seaplane, which can either fly or cruise as a warship, have been made public. Two of these ships are being built for the air ministry. The vessels are said to be much like small ships with wings added. They are larger and stronger than any sea going aircraft yet constructed and each will carry a crew of seven with emplacements for five machine guns.

The vessels are being so constructed that while being light, the hulls are sufficiently seaworthy to ride out the roughest waves. They will be capable of co-operating with the navy and joining in all maneuvers without a parent vessel, operating from a sea base just as the submarine does.

They have a range of 1,500 miles and when not flying will be able to "taxi" along the water driven by their propellers.

W. V. Meadows, 78 years of age, of Lanett, Ala., veteran of the civil war, and shot in the eye at the battle of Vicksburg, July 1, 1863, on Tuesday coughed up the bullet, and is in his usual good health, despite the fact that he has carried this bullet, weighing approximately one ounce, in his head for 58 years. Mr. Meadows was a member of Company G, 37th Alabama Infantry, commanded by Colonel Dowdell.

EXCELLENT MARKET

For Pure Bred American Live Stock In South America.

South America offers "an excellent market" for purebred American live stock, the department of agriculture asserted recently in a statement offering suggestions and advice to prospective shippers. The trade last year amounted to nearly \$700,000 as a result of the co-operation between the department and individuals and breeding associations, the statement said, but at the same time warning was given that this kind of export requires a "highly complex" process.

"Certain machinery is involved and numerous details must be given attention," the statement said, "if the exporter would avoid serious losses due to delays, overcharges and misdirection. Even minimum charges are usually high and shippers should take all the short cuts possible in arranging to meet transportation and governmental requirements."

LADY ASTOR THREATENED British Peeress Retains Composure and Assailant Flees.

Lady Astor had an unpleasant encounter at Plymouth, England Saturday when, as she was leaving her residence, a soldier halted her, made use of violent language and threatened to kill her. Realizing that a display of fear might be followed by an attack, Lady Astor fought for time and tried to get the man's name and address.

Her tactics were so successful that the soldier started to run, with his questioner in close pursuit. The chase led first to some stables and then to a public house, the soldier finally being caught and turned over to the police.

Lady Astor, however, expressed the wish that no proceedings be taken against the man.

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FRIDAY AND SATURDAY OF THIS WEEK WE WILL HAVE CHOICE FRESH OYSTERS, FRESH FISH—SPANISH MACKEREL. PHONE YOUR ORDERS. CASH ON DELIVERY.

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All kinds of Typewriter Ribbons at The Yorkville Enquirer Office.

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You are doubtless, with the coming of warm weather, thinking a bit of that pair of Low Shoes that you will soon be wanting. We have them—scores of pairs of as fine Shoes as can be had anywhere—correct styles—correct leathers—correct colors and every pair marked down in price to correspond with today's market prices—the wholesale costs—and in scores and scores of instances at PRICES BELOW TODAY'S COSTS—but we have the Low Shoes and they must be moved on and you are one that will get the benefit of Lower Prices.

Yes, we have received some of the new Spring styles—Low Shoes bought to even up our stock—and we have hundreds of pairs of Low Shoes, carried over from last season—all marked down to balance, with today's prices—Ladies' Low Shoes that last season were \$16.50—Are Now marked down to \$10.00 a pair. \$8.50 Low Shoes—Are now marked down to \$5.00 Pair.

And other Ladies' Shoes at corresponding reductions. Men's Edwin Clapp Shoes that last season sold as High as \$16.50 to \$18.00 a Pair—Now are offered at \$12.50 Pair—Others at proportion prices.

A new line of TENNIS SHOES—Men's, Ladies', Misses' and Boys'—All sizes.

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