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by Sydney Parkman
CHAPTER XII

Continued

The verandah was formed by a projection of the solid coral platform on which the house had been erected, and its naturally rugged surface had been smoothed off to present comparatively even appearance. The outside walls of the building itself were only roughly dressed, but the heavy ironwood corner posts, the door frames and the woodwork of the unglazed windows had been planed and varnished as carefully as though skilled joiners had been employed upon the work.

The house door which opened on to the verandah led directly into what was evidently the living-room — a large airy apartment with windows on two sides, comfortably furnished with four chairs, a polished scacia-wood table, a bookcase well stocked with books, and a large sideboard. All these had been made from native woods, and the only article of furniture which had obviously been imported was a large cabinet gramophone, which stood in one corner. Chintz curtains were drawn back from the windows, and the inequalities of walls and floor had been smoothed out and filled in with cement in such a manner as to present a perfectly even surface. The former had been further treated with cream color, and the latter was scattered with finely woven native mats.

Altogether, it was an astonishingly comfortable room to find in such a situation, and even the doctor opened his eyes in surprise as he entered.

"Make yourselves comfortable, won't you?" Strang urged them. "It'll be another hour before dinner's ready, for you've caught us by surprise. But I darsay a drink wouldn't come amiss, and if you'll excuse me I'll see what I can dig out."

He went out through one of the two doors, which apparently communicated with the other parts of the house, and the moment he had closed it behind him, the captain looked round at the other two, and drew a long breath.

"Well, if this don't beat cock-fighting!" he remarked, in a low voice. "Blowed if I ever see a place got up like this before! Any, it's a regular palace! But what the devil's he takin' about dinner for at this time of day. He means supper, don't he?"

"No, I think not," the doctor returned in the same undertone. "Our friend evidently believes in preserving the amenities in his solitude." He crossed over to the open gramophone and glanced down at the record on the turntable. "Hm! Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, with Toscanini and the Philadelphia Orchestra! I have a premonition that this dinner will be worth waiting for!"

"You look like you're in for a better time here than you thought for?" the captain told Thurlow. "If the Residency's anything like this, it'll be as good as stayin' at the Australia Hotel in Sydney! But maybe old Porson hadn't got it fixed up so flash. He looked to me like a man that took his liquor straight and didn't worry about the frills."

Thurlow nodded without replying. He was thinking that on the whole he would have preferred to find a more ignorant man in

Happenings Of The Week

Continued from page 2

was brought to a close by those present extending to the bride-elect best wishes for many years of happy wedded life.

Mrs. Beverley Owen, who has been in Summerside for some time due to the illness and death of her mother, the late Mrs. G. W. Bell, left last week en route to her home in New York City. She accompanied her father, Mr. G. W. Bell to Owen Sound, Ont., where he will visit for some time with another daughter, Mrs. Charles Bacon and Mr. Bacon.

Mrs. Gordon Toombs of Summerside entertained for a number of her friends recently, at the Birch Hill Tourist Home.

Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Allen left Summerside by car on Monday, for Halifax, N. S., where they spent several days visiting their daughter, Mrs. Fraser Ross and Mr. Ross.

After a month's motor trip through the Southern States, Mr. and Mrs. Silas MacFarlane and Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Simmons have returned to their homes in Summerside. Most of their time was spent in Daytona Beach and Jacksonville, Florida and Charleston, S.C. Returning home, they spent some time in New York City.

Mrs. Edward Crease of Halifax is visiting in Summerside, the guest of her mother, Mrs. J. LeRoy Holman, Summer Street.

Senator and Mrs. T. D. Grant, of Ottawa and Montague, have been visiting their sons in Summerside. They left for Montague on Wednesday, to open their home for the summer.

The Misses Betty Lou Tredenick and Bernice Lidstone of Summerside are in Halifax, N. S., where they are taking a pharmaceutical course.

Mrs. Thane A. Campbell's friends are glad to know that she has returned to her home in Summerside, after being a patient in the Prince Edward Island Hospital, Charlottetown.

In charge of the trading post. He had looked forward to some measure of mental relaxation from the strain of the past week, and it was not altogether a pleasant surprise to find that his new companion was evidently a man with some pretensions to culture.

"Speakin' for myself, I could do without things like curtains an' that," the captain went on, looking round the room. "They're regular women's fal-lals an' I dunno what any man wants with 'em. Nor these rugs, neither. Still . . ."

He stopped short, for at that moment Strang re-entered the room.

"The drinks will be here in a minute," he said. "I found I'd run out of soda-water, but they're just fixing some up."

"Soda-water, b'gosh!" the captain exclaimed. "You don't mean to say you run to that here?"

"Why not?" the trader asked in mild surprise. "It's easy enough to make with one of those patent siphons, and Sorensen always brings a supply of gas. I'm afraid there's no ice, though. It's an expensive matter to instal a proper plant. We went into the question some time ago, but finally decided we couldn't run to it."

As he finished speaking, the door opened again, and a native girl entered, carrying a brass tray laden with bottles and glasses.

To be continued

Mrs. W. A. Allen and Mrs. W. P. Callaghan were joint hostesses at bridge on Monday evening, at Mrs. Callaghan's home.

Mr. and Mrs. George Wilkinson of Springfield, West and Mr. and Mrs. Allison Harris of Summerside, have returned to their respective homes, after a motor trip to Florida, where most of their time was spent in Miami, St. Petersburg and Daytona Beach.

Last Saturday, Mr. and Mrs. Murray Willett, Summerside, attended the Scott-Furze wedding in Moncton, N. B., which was solemnized by the Rev. Clair Johnson, son of Mrs. Hammond Johnson of Summerside.

After a motor trip, when they visited relatives in Shawinigan Falls, Quebec, Ottawa, Ont. and New York City, Mrs. H. T. Holman Sr. and Mrs. Gerda Morrison returned to their home in Summerside.

Mrs. Emma Holman was hostess at bridge, on Monday evening.

Mr. Bill Nicholson, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Ewen Nicholson and a student at Dalhousie University, Halifax, N. S., arrived at his home in Summerside early this week, after the termination of his college year.

Mrs. James Arthur, Summerside, had the misfortune to fall in her home recently, breaking two bones in her left wrist. She is a patient in the Prince County Hospital but reports indicate she is resting comfortably.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Bennett of Charlottetown visited relatives and friends in Summerside and St. Eleanors on Sunday. They were accompanied by their daughter, Diane, their nephew, David Keenan and Miss Joan Anderson, a music student of Mr. and Mrs. Raoul Reymond.

Mrs. T. H. E. Inman was a bridge hostess on Monday evening, at her home on Beaver Street, Summerside.

The marriage of Miss Helen MacPhee R. N. takes place in Montreal to-day. Her parents, Dr. and Mrs. J. A. MacPhee of Summerside, will be present at the wedding ceremony. They travelled from Summerside to Montreal by plane, on Wednesday.

The Women's Association of the United Church, Summerside, held their final meeting for the season on Thursday evening, in the form of a banquet in the Epworth Hall. Seated at the head table were the president, Mrs. Morley Wyley and the members of the executive. The ladies of the Social Club catered.

Mr. William A. Clark left Summerside yesterday morning for his home in Black Falls, Alberta. During the past month he has been visiting his brothers, Mr. Peter G. Clark and Mr. Horace Clark and other relatives and friends throughout P. E. I. He saw many changes since his last visit to the Island many years ago.

Mrs. E. H. Strong entertained the members of the Baptist Ladies' Guild last evening at her home on Spring Street, Summerside.

Sergeant Kaye Dutney, serving with the Women's Division of the R. C. A. P., at St. Huberts, P. Q., whose home is in Murray River, sailed from Quebec yesterday for England to attend the Coronation. Sgt. Dutney's grandfather, Mr. Dutney, attended the Coronation of King Edward VII in 1902.



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