Select Story.

BEHIND IRON DOORS.

BY WALT MASON.

Hugh Morse looked gloomily through the window of his apartment and found nothing in the view to cheer or encourage him; a high board fence 50 feet away marked the boundary; inside the fence two or three men labored dismally at a pile of stone, with chains on their ankles, while a man in uniform sat on a bowlder and stormed at them with threats and curses. Hugh had stood for hours at that window, looking at the same scene; the men were not always the same, but there was always the swearing official on the bowlder, and the high board fence and the pile of rock, and the manacled ankles.

When he looked from the barred window, it was to envy the men with chains on their ankles, who were permitted to follow the exhilirating work of breaking rock; and also to escape the gaze of curious country people, who came to the jail every day to see the murderer as they would go to the circus to see the sacred elephant of Siam or the horned rhinoceros of Africa.

The evening was closing in, and Hugh sat in his broken chair and counted the hours that must pass before his trial; he had counted the hours, and was reducing them to minutes, when the wicket in the door was opened, and the deputy sherifi presented his face at the aperture, saying:

"There's a gentleman here wants to see you. You may come into the corridor."

The door was opened and Hugh stepped into the dingy corridor, where a stranger greeted him politely; the stranger was small and pale, with cold blue eyes, and was attired in black, like a respectable undertaker in the course of his duty.

"My name," said the stranger, "is John Pauley; I am a detective; I have been engaged by a friend of yours, who wishes to remain unknown, to work in your behalf. Your trial is set for the 2nd of January, and this is the 10th of December, so I have but little time; tell me all that you can, so that I may begin work intelligently."

"There is but little to tell," replied Hugh, despondently; "and that little seems to be all against me, although I am as innocent as a child. I was employed in Mr. Wilkie's store, and had been there for four years. Although a thoroughly honest man, he was very avaricious, and had an uncertain temper. He had promised me, again and again, an increase of salary, but the increase never came. On the night of the murder, Mr. Wilkie worked in his office late, and, as we were alone, I took advantage of the opportunity to ask him when I might expect the promised increase; I told him that I was preparing to be married, and urged upon him the fact that I had served him faithfully for years, at very low wages; he lost his temper and abused me so scandalously that I in turn became angry, and we had a quarrel. It is very possible that our voices were heard on the street outside. I gave him my resignation, and retired to the little room at the back of the store, where I had slept every night during my employment in the store; I went to bed and slept until daylight. When I went to the office, I found Mr. Wilkie sitting at his desk, dead; he had been stabbed with my knife, which I had laid on the desk during our quarrel. I heard no sound during the night. When I ran out to give the alarm, I noticed that the front door was not locked, although I am sure I locked it before my interview with Mr. Wilkie. That is all that I know about the murder."

Mr. Pauley proceeded from the jail to a cottage in the suburbs of the town; there he was eagerly welcomed by a young woman, who, although pale and with lines of care on her brow, suggesting that trouble was no stranger to her, was still a beauty; with feverish impatience she motioned the detective to a seat and calmly he adjusted himself in his chair and glanced around the room, as though to inspect the furniture before proceeding. An old man was nodding in a chair before the stove; an old lady was nodding in a chair behind the stove, with a pious book in her lap. "Your father and mother?" queried Mr. Pauley.

"No; my uncle and aunt; now do tell me all; have you seen him?"

"I have seen him. Miss Simmons, it is a tough case; it will take a great deal of work to prove anything to his advantage, and my work is expensive. Do you want me to go ahead?"

"Certainly; the little money I have is my own, and every cent of it is at your command. Money! I would give my life to save Hugh, as he would for me?"

"How much money have you?"

"Five hundred dollars."

"I'm afraid I'll need it all. Now, I'll say something for your comfort; that young man is no murderer; he wouldn't kill a sheep, and I'll have him out of jail by the 1st of January. Somebody killed Wilkie. Hugh Morse didn't do it. Therefore the man who did do it must be found. I am the man to find him. But I won't find him sitting here, so I'll say good-day, Miss Simmons."

After delivering these sentences in a jerky fashion, the detective prepared for his departure. He buttoned his black coat up to his chin and pulled down the brim of his hat for the evening was growing cold, and a wild north wind rattled the window panes.

"You have no overcoat with you?" said Miss Simmons; "you must not go into the storm without one."

She hurried away to the closet, and returned with an old-fashioned heavy ulster. "This belongs to my brother," she said; "he is away now; you may use it as long as you please." As she handed it to Pauley, a strange smile played around his lips, and his hard eyes seemed to soften; when he departed, he was more courteous than usual, and he muttered to himself, as he walked into the storm:

"For once John Pauley has experienced the novelty of being treated like a Christian. It's a caution how such treatment will thaw a man out!"

It is impossible to follow the movements of Mr. Pauley, during the next two weeks, in detail; he was a very busy man; sometimes he appeared soothed and sustained by an unfaltering trust, as though he were nearing the goal, and again he appeared discouraged and perplexed.

On the night before New Year's he arrived at the cottage rather late. Although calm, there was enthusiasm in his eyes and cordiality in his voice, as he said:

"Miss Simmons, the task is nearly accomplished. To-morrow I shall place the murderer in the hands of the authorities, and you may go to the jail and get your lover. Now, be calm, and I'll give you a brief outline of the story. I soon found that there was nobody in this town who had a motive for killing Wilkie, and there was no robbery done. It was very possible that Wilkie had made enemies, though, for he was miserly and tyrannical. So I hunted up his past; it was not very hard to do, for he was one of those foolish people who keep a diary. In an old trunk I found a dozen volumes of his journal. I struggled through hundreds of pages of personal reflections and turgid weariness, and found at last what I wanted. In his younger days Wilkie was a sea captain, and a very cruel one, I have no doubt. One day, years ago, when his ship was on the Pacific ocean, he gave an order to an Italian sailor. It wasn't obeyed with proper alacrity, and he knocked the sailor down. The sailor made a threat, and was treated to the rope's end. Now, Miss Simmons, the Italians, or some of them, are vengeful in the extreme; they can carry a grudge for a lifetime, and leave it as a legacy to their children. I made inquiries. Sure enough, on the day preceding the murder of Wilkie, a swarthy man with a hand-organ and a monkey came into the town, to the great amusement of the children. I have no doubt that the swarthy man was knocked down on the deck of a ship in the Pacific ocean once upon a time.

"Singularly enough, after leaving the town, this swarthy man fell down an embankment a few miles in the country, and broke his leg; and he was carried to a hut in the woods, where an old bachelor lives, and there he has been lying ever since, and the children play truant to go there and feed the monkey. He is able to walk now, and might go away unexpectedly, were it not for the fact that I have made the old bachelor a deputy of mine; and he watches the swarthy man, and will keep him there until to-morrow, when I'll go after him, and release your lover from jail. I might have had him here before, but there is some romance in me, and I wanted the climax to occur on New Year's day."

The detective was almost merry as he concluded; but when Miss Simmons begged him to defer the release of Hugh Morse no longer—not an hour—he grew somber, and talked in a disconnected way of overcoats.

The morning of New Year's day was so peculiar that old men and sages who were reputed weatherwise, shook their heads ominously, and predicted that the day would be one to be remembered. Not a bough stirred in the heavy air; the clouds were low and moved slowly to the north; there was audible a gentle hum, as of the noise of a brook in the distance, and no man could tell what gave rise to it. But these things did not disturb Mr. Pauley, as he moved actively along the highway on his triumphal errand. He started at daylight on foot; he had arranged for a horse and wagon for the return journey. At eight o'clock he reached the hut in the woods and entered it. An old man with a gray beard was lying on a cot, breathing heavily and asleep. Pauley shook him roughly, and cried: "Where's the Italian?"

The old man started from his cot and looked wildly around. "Gone! gone!" he cried. "He was here with his monkey when I went to sleep; he gave me something to make me sleep, for I was sick, and I trusted him."

Pauley raised his hand, as though to strike him.

The ground was damp under the trees, and Pauley soon found the track of the fugitive; he moved along like a hound on the scent. And now the gentle hum had died away and the clouds no longer moved, but a great mass of gray hung overhead and large flakes of snow began to fall; they thickened rapidly, and soon John Pauley found that a fleecy blanket was spread all about him, and under him and over him; and the wind arose suddenly with a shriek, and the snow in blinding masses was flung into his face; he could no longer see his hand when he held it before him, and the truth came home to him that he was lost on the parairie in a western blizzard.

He stumbled against a tree that grew upright for a couple of feet and then bent at an angle; he placed his back to it and determined that the hut which he had left half an hour before was straight ahead; he tried to reach it; stumbling, falling, creeping and struggling, he progressed painfully for hours, as it seemed to him, and then, with outstretched hand, he felt something hard before him. "The hut at last!" he cried, but it was the tree he had left so long ago. He stumbled on again, this time at random; he was growing drowsy, and he knew that if he went to sleep he would never wake again. On, on, he dragged himself, and the fury of the storm began to abate; in a little hollow in the prairie he stumbled over something and fell; with his hands he examined the something, and found it to be the form of a man, with something large on his back. It was the Italian, with his organ.

"Whether we live or die, we'll stay together," said John Pauley, and he took from his pocket a pair of handcuffs; he snapped one iron loop on the Italian's wrist and the other on his own, and then unable to struggle longer against his fate, he went to sleep.

The New Year's day was far gone when the deputy's red face appeared at the hole in the iron door, with a smile that was unusual. "A lady to see you, Mr. Morse," he said; "you may step into the corridor."

Hugh accepted the invitation, and a pair of arms were thrown about his neck.

"You are free, Hugh," cried a glad voice, and tears of happiness began to flow. And when all the amazement and tears were over Miriam explained how it came about. Only a part of her narrative is necessary to ours: "And that noble detective, as he was sinking to sleep, manacled to what he supposed was a corpse, thought he would make one more effort to be saved; and he shot off all the cartridges in his revolver, and, do you know, he was within ten feet of a house and didn't known it; and the people rushed out and found the two and carried them into the house. The Italian was revived, but his hours were numbered, and he confessed, and he died an hour ago; and here is the the order for your release."

On the next day Miss Simmons went to the bank without a sigh to withdraw her little fortune for the detective; she took the roll of bills and went to his hotel. Mr. Pauley, the clerk said, although very sick, had left by the midnight train; he had left a note for her. The note read as follows:

"Miss Miriam Simmons: I am a hard and unscrupulous man: perhaps training and circumstances have made me so. But down in the bottom of my heart there is a little human nature. You treated me like a Christian. You thought of my comfort when you had trouble of your own, and gave me the use of your brother's overcoat. With your permission, I keep the coat, and call our account square. I leave the town before my worse nature gets uppermost. To-morrow I might want the money: for, as I said, I am a hard and unscrupulous man.

JOHN PAULEY."

Jones—To-morrow will be the first Sunday of the year, and I propose to commence the new year by going to church.

Mrs. Jones—you had better take me with you.

Jones—What for?

Mrs. Jones—You may need some body to identify you.

"You can't both ride on a single ticket," said the conductor, sharply. "Oh, I guess we kin," answered Josh, with perfect confidence, as he threw his arm around his blushing companion. "If you'll look at this here dockament you'll see that me and Marthy's just been made one."

His wife's millinery bill slipped from his nerveless fingers. "The consequences of your extravagance," he solemnly exclaimed, "be upon your own head." They were, with the exception of Thursday afternoons, when the cook went out.

Two men are in love with the girl. Good! Now, it seems strange that they should quarrel with each other for being of the same mind. It is usually difference of opinion that invites conflict.

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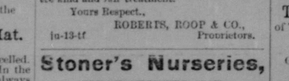
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constantly on hand, and at the lowest prices. ☞ We invite the farmers of Carroll and adjoining counties to give us a call. We guarantee kind and fair treatment.

Yours Respect.,
ROBERTS, ROOP & CO.,
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ATTENTION FARMERS AND FRUIT GROWERS.

I have a fine assortment of Apple, Peach, Plum, Apricot, Pear and Cherry Trees, Blackberries, Raspberries, Japan Wineberries, Lucretia Dewberries, Juneberries, Asparagus, Currants, Gooseberries, H. P. Roses and Climbing Roses, and all kinds of Ornamental Trees, all in thrifty condition.

You can save a large per cent. by buying Home Grown Stock, getting it Healthier and Cheaper than by buying stock raised and sold by foreign agents.

My trees will be ready for delivery October 20, 1896.

Want good reliable men to sell Fruit Trees. I will pay a good commission. Apply at my office.

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Pictures framed in best of skill.

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☞ Nitrous Oxide Gas administered.

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Respectfully,
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P. & R. R. at Shippensburg, Norfolk & Western ... B & O. Railroad at Cherry Run; Pennsylvania ... ville, and P. W. & ... B. & P. Railroads ... Station, Baltimore, Md.

MAIN LINE AND CONNE...

Taking effect Sunday, Nov. 15th, ...

TRAINS WEST.

LEAVE	1. AM	11. AM	15. AM	23. PM	29. PM	53. AM	55
New York	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Philadelphia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Washington	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Baltimore	4.30	8.11	10.17	4.08	8.15	9.7	3.55
Arlington		8.18	10.39	4.30	6.38	9.29	4.19
Mt. Hope		8.20	10.42	4.34	6.38	9.31	4.06
Pikesville		8.26	10.49	4.34	6.45	10.14	4.17
...		8.57	11.09	4.52	7.10	10.35	4.21
Glyndon	4.41	9.10	11.15	5.07	7.13	10.39	4.34
Emory Grove		9.11	11.15		7.15	10.39	4.35
Pinkneburg		9.20	11.25	5.16	7.24	10.47	4.47
Carrollton		9.24	11.29	5.20	7.28	10.50	4.01
Westminster	5.40	9.32	11.35	5.44	7.38	11.12	4.16
Avondale		9.50	12.00	6.02	8.06	11.37	4.39
New Windsor	5.53	10.10	12.16	6.01	8.22	11.55	4.58
Linwood		10.15	12.16	6.06	8.26	11.40	4.43
Union Bridge	6.00	10.28	12.29	6.12	8.10	12.36	4.59
Middleburg		10.37	P M.	6.18	P M	8.36	P M.
Bruceville	6.07	10.39		6.20			
D. P. Creek		10.53		6.36			
Rocky Ridge		10.46		6.34			
Thurmont	6.22	10.53		6.46			
Edgemont	7.05	11.48		7.44			
Waynesboro	17.20	12.08		7.51			
Chambersb'g	18.05	12.39		8.30			
Shippensburg	18.33	1.06		8.58			
Hagerstown	7.30	12.15		8.00			
Williamsport							
	A M	P M		P M.			

TRAINS EAST.

LEAVE	22. P M	4. A M.	8. A M	12. P M	18. P M	32. A M	34. P M.
Williamsport							
Hagerstown	4.15		7.02		2.00		
Shippensburg			6.06		1.09		
Chambersburg			6.71		1.59		
Waynesboro			7.15		2.11		
Edgemont	4.40		7.58		2.32		
Thurmont	5.16		8.31		3.20		
Rocky Ridge			8.56		3.31		
D. P. Creek			8.25		3.28		
Bruceville	5.36		8.37		3.44	4.49	
Middleburg			8.36		3.46	5.37	
Union Bridge	5.46	6.0	8.46	12.16	3.55	5.46	4.52
Linwood		6.11	8.49	12.54	4.00	5.52	4.59
New Windsor	5.52	6.20	8.54	12.59	4.06	5.59	4.15
Avondale		6.28		1.9	4.14	6.7	5.23
Westminster	6.06	6.47	9.11	1.16	4.29	6.22	4.38
Carrollton		7.05	9.29	1.29	4.10	6.40	4.59
Pinkneburg		7.09	9.33	1.33	4.14	6.44	5.03
Emory Grove		7.20		1.50	5.00	6.56	5.15
Glyndon	6.36	7.40	9.40	1.51	5.11	6.16	5.26
Owings Mills	6.44	7.50	9.53	2.11	5.25	7.30	5.39
Pikesville		8.03	10.00	2.21	5.33	7.38	5.47
Mt. Hope		8.11	10.06	2.28	5.38	7.42	5.53
Arlington		8.14	10.08	2.31	5.40	7.45	5.56
Baltimore	7.17	8.40	10.27	2.47	5.59	8.10	6.15
Washington	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Philadelphia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New York	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	P M	A M	A M	P M.	P M	A M	P M

*Daily. †Daily, except Sunday. ‡Sunday.

Passengers for and from Cherry Run, Wellsville and Dillsburg, Pa., Transfer at Shippensburg. P. V. and intermediate points, from and for stations east of Hagerstown change at Hagerstown.

At WESTMINSTER R. R. Trains will leave Emmitsburg daily, except Sunday at 7.15 and 10.00 A. M. and 2.55 and 4.07 P. M., arriving at Rocky Ridge at 8.20 and 11.05 A. M. and 3.55 and 5.20 P. M. Trains west will leave Rocky Ridge, daily, except Sunday, at 8.40 and 10.40 A. M. and 1.15 and 5.1 P. M., arriving at Emmitsburg at 8.55 and 11.10 A. M. and 1.01 and 4.01 P. M.

FREDERICK DIVISION PENNSYLVANIA R. R. (Daily except Sunday.)—Trains for Point leave Bruceville at 8.28 A. M. and 2.4 and 10.49 A. M. and 5.24 and 6.25 P. M. Trains for Taneytown, Littlestown and Gettysburg leave Bruceville 9.43 A. M., and 2.45 P. M.

Through Trains for Hanover and Gettysburg and points on Baltimore and Hanover Division leave Baltimore daily, except Sunday, at 7.52 A. M. and 3.32 P. M. Through cars for Gettysburg and intermediate points leave Baltimore also daily, except Sunday at 10.17 A. M.

J. M. HOOD, General Manager.
B. H GRISWOLD Gen'l Passenger Ag't

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Regular meetings Monday night preceding the last Sa