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(Peeps at a Modern Correspondence)



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CONFERENCE APPOINTMENTS FOR YEAR MADE

J. Harry Wright Returned To Chestertown

58 CHANGES ARE MADE

W. S. Grant Re-Named To Rock Hall Charge

The Reverend J. Harry Wright, pastor of the Chestertown Methodist Episcopal Church, was returned to the Local charge at the close of the 63rd annual session of the Wilmington M. E. Conference at Crisfield on Monday. A total of 58 pastoral changes were made in the conference.

The Reverend W. S. Grant was reappointed to the Rock Hall charge; Reverend W. L. Hess was renamed at Galena; Reverend Roland H. Nelson was returned to Millington and Reverend J. C. B. Hopkins was again appointed to the Still Pond and Betterton charge.

The Reverend E. N. Wright was appointed pastor of the Fairlee Church and L. L. Powell was selected as pastor of the Pomona charge. H. O. Hufnal was appointed to the Crumpton position, W. G. Barlow was sent to Church Hill and the Reverend C. W. Clark, was reappointed at Sudlersville.

No changes were made among the district superintendents: The complete list of appointments for the Middletown District is as follows:

J. L. Johnson, District Superintendent.

Barclay Circuit, Md.—L. P. Corkran, supply.

Bayside, Md.—H. M. Smith, supply.

Bozman and Neavitt, Md.—Alonzo Travers, supply.

Burrsville, Md.—W. I. Littleton, supply.

Cecilton, Md.—R. T. Thawley.

Centreville, Md.—G. W. Dawson.

Chestertown, Md.—J. Harry Wright.

Cheswold—R. W. Kirwin, supply.

Church Hill, Md.—W. G. Barlow.

Clayton—C. W. Spry.

Concord, Md.—S. L. Hanby, supply.

Cordova, Md.—Leon W. Ross, supply.

Crumpton, Md.—Harvey O. Hufnal.

Denton, Md.—E. C. Hallman.

Easton, Md.—W. A. Hearn.

Fairlee, Md.—E. N. Wright, supply.

Galena, Md.—W. L. Hess.

Greensboro, Md.—A. B. Frye.

Hillsboro, Md.—Willard Everett.

Henderson and Hartley.—J. G. Lynn, supply.

Kent Island, Md.—Leoland Jackson.

Kenton—Conrad Hamer.

Marydel, Md.—A. G. Thomas, supply.

Middletown—M. E. Wheatley.

Millington, Md.—R. H. Nelson.

Odessa and Friendship—S. T. Hamblin.

Oxford, Md.—E. B. Eckhardt.

Pomona, Md.—L. L. Powell.

Preston, Md.—T. R. VanDyke.

Queenstown, Md.—C. D. Sharples, supply.

Ridgely, Md.—R. L. Tawes.

Rock Hall, Md.—W. S. Grant.

Royal Oak, Md.—W. F. Atkinson, supply.

St. Michaels, Md.—E. W. Henvis.

Smyrna—E. P. Thomas.

Still Pond and Betterton, Md.—J. C. B. Hopkins.

Sudlersville, Md.—C. W. Clark.

Tilghman, Md.—C. H. Atkins.

Townsend—C. N. Jones.

Trappe, Md.—J. H. Geoghegan.

Wye Mills and Starr, Md.—W. L. McClintock, supply.

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Smuggled "Eye of Buddha"

By SAMUEL L. KARR

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With a sigh Fancy Howards lovingly replaced the gem in its chamois-skin bag and gazed reflectively through the porthole of his stateroom at the now well-defined skyline of New York's harbor. A quarter of a million dollars certainly was a pile of money to pay for a ruby even if it had been the left eye of a bloomin' idol over in Nagpur; but nevertheless, if he succeeded in evading the customs officials and saved the duty he would otherwise necessarily have to pay Fancy could still make a handsome profit on his six-figure investment. He had to admit to himself that he was uneasy. That chap who had sat at the next table from him on the voyage across—the one who wore those heavy bull-dog shoes and the derby hat and who always had a nauseating big, black cigar cocked pugnaciously in one corner of his mouth—gave Fancy the "willies." Anyone who wore a hat and shoe like his must be a detective.

But—oh well, what was the use in worrying! The secret service man didn't live who could outwit Fancy Howards.

It seemed that Fancy's rather derogatory opinion of the customs service was well justified. As he walked blithely out of the customs building he laughed softly to himself. Why, the poor fools hadn't suspected a thing. But suddenly he started. He felt an arm linked through his own. He turned and saw a big, black stogey. He looked higher and saw a black derby; he looked down and saw a pair of heavy brogues. It was his detective friend from the boat.

"Now don't go making a fuss," the stranger snapped. "You got an appointment with me at headquarters. Come along now."

At headquarters the secret service man showed his hand.

"We've been watching you for a long time, Howards. You've fooled us before, but now we've got you dead to rights. We know that you smuggled the 'Eye of Buddha' ruby into the country."

Fancy smiled nonchalantly.

"Sorry, chief, but I don't know what you're talking about. I never heard of any 'Eye of Buddha' ruby and I never smuggled anything into this country. Mind if I make myself comfortable while you're doing it?"

And so saying, he reached out and helped himself to a cigar from the officer's breast pocket. He lit it and smoked with evident satisfaction while two plain clothes men vainly searched every stitch and seam of his clothing for the ruby. Finally, even he of the heavy brogues, black derby and sickening cigar was satisfied that the ruby was not to be found.

"I guess you've fooled us again, Fancy," he grudgingly admitted, "but we'll get you yet."

* * * * * * *

The shadows of the afternoon had already enshrouded the walls of detective headquarters in the gloom of the falling night. The doors of the building opened and a man emerged. He wore a black derby, heavy shoes and chewed on a big, black cigar; it was the detective who earlier in the day had somewhat inconvenienced Fancy Howards. At the moment that the shaft of light from the opened door had silhouetted the form of the officer against surrounding gloom, a figure that had been lurking on the other side of the street approached the man in the derby and heavy brogues. The figure was that of Fancy Howards.

The detective felt a gun poked into his ribs.

"Now don't go making a fuss," Fancy mimicked the words of the officer. "You got an appointment with me a couple of blocks away. Come along now."

The eloquence of the gun at his back persuaded the plain clothes man and he "came along." Some distance away in the light of a gas lamp on a deserted side street, the two came to a halt.

"I guess you're wondering what I want with you, eh?" Fancy asked. "Well, all I'm going to do is to relieve you of a small package you have that belongs to me. You're anxious to know the place where I hid the ruby. Here it is."

He inserted a hand into the other's breast pocket and drew out a small chamois skin bag from which he took a glittering, flashing red stone.

"This is the 'Eye of Buddha,'" he explained. "I dropped it in there when I reached for that cigar this afternoon, so when your men searched me they naturally couldn't find it because you had it. Simple, what?"

"Say, you don't expect to get away with it, do you?" the other blustered. "Why in a half hour every cop in town will be on the lookout for you. You'll have less chance than a snowball in August."

"Oh that's all right," Fancy confidentially asserted. "In a half-hour this ruby will be in a very safe place. Even if you do lock me up you won't be able to find it, and when I tell the judge how, while you were combing the country for the jewel, you had it in your own pocket, why you will become the laughing stock of the world; the newspapers will laugh you off the force. Yep! I guess I'm pretty safe. Within half an hour, if you know what's good for your reputation, you will have forgotten all about me and the 'Eye of Buddha.' Well, so long, old chap."

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