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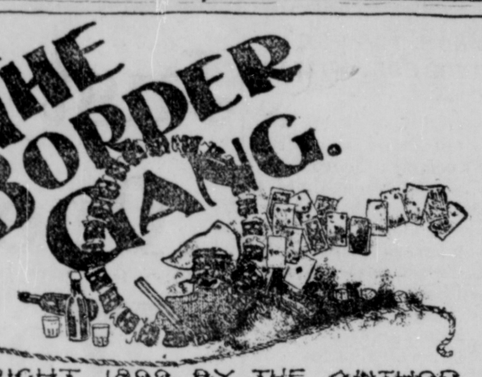
THE BORDER GANG.

BY GEORGE GRIFFITH



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Now, Ikey Cohen, though not a strong man nor yet one of conspicuous pluck, was one of those peculiarly constituted individuals who gain a sort of secondary courage through stress of circumstances, somewhat as runners get their second wind. From what the

There seemed to be a discussion of some little heat.

inspector had said he saw that he knew a good deal more about his late adventure "on the other side" than he thought he did. Suspicions are sometimes as good as knowledge. He stuck his hands deep down into his pockets, looked the inspector squarely in the face and said:

"If you want me to sell you a pup, Mr. Lipinski, I'll be happy to oblige you. I can't sell you that one, because it's dead. But I think I could tell you the name of the man who ordered it to be killed. Anyhow—I—guess—you'd—a—recog-nized—his voice—as I calkerlate—I—did."

Ikey didn't do the Yankee drawl at all badly, and the shot went right home. For the first and the last time in his life Inspector Lipinski lost his self command in public. But his start was only momentary, and the flush that came into his cheeks died out again in an instant.

"What do you mean by that, sir?" he asked in a tone as calm as usual, but with a distinctly threatening ring in it.

"Just about what he says, I reckon," drawled Mickey Muratti, who was about as good a mimic as he was a juggler. "If you don't recognize that twang, I do. That was well done, Ikey, boy. What'll you take? The next's with me."

What might have happened after this no one will ever know, for just at that moment one of the inspector's men entered hurriedly and handed him a note He opened it, glanced at it, crushed it up in his hand and said:

"Gentlemen, I'm sorry, but, so far as I'm concerned, this entertainment will have to be postponed. Another man wants to see me very urgently about a dog."

With this he drank off the remains of his whisky and soda and turned and walked to the door, followed by his official satellite, not a little pleased at such an opportunely good "get out" from a situation which was bidding fair to become embarrassing.

It pleased the fates to draw out the tragedy which thus began with the inhuman butchery of poor little Tommy into more scenes than could be reproduced here. The present narrative is, however, only concerned with the last of them, or perhaps it would be more correct to say the last but one, and that which brought the curtain down.

As week after week went by the outrages committed by the mysterious border gang, as the unknown desperadoes who had so suddenly invaded the hitherto comparatively safe frontiers of the Free State and Griqualand West very soon came to be called, seemed to increase in number and daring.

It was quite a curious situation—such a one as the student of human crime had never had the chance of studying before and never may have again. It was a sort of three cornered contest between underhand roguery, open violence and the forces which worked for law and order. The old struggle between the police and the I. D. B., or diamond smuggling, fraternity went on as before, but with an added terror for the evildoer, who, if he eluded the clutches of the law, might the next hour fall into the no more merciful grasp of the gang. The honest and lawful trader still hated the I. D. B. as his worst enemy, but the gang robbed both with an impartiality worthy of a more honorable calling.

The police, naturally, had anything but a happy time of it. If they devoted an adequate amount of time and force to hunting for the gang—which was never where it was expected or wanted—the occupation of the I. D. B. became comparatively pleasant and easy, while if they did their proper work thoroughly the gang promptly went on the warpath with renewed vigor and extended its scope and raked in the plunder with both hands from the honest and dishonest alike.

It will be readily understood that no state of affairs could possibly be more distasteful to Mr. Inspector Lipinski than this. Not only was his professional credit at stake, but men like Mickey Muratti, Ikey Cohen, Sandy Fraser and Alexander Macadam, who he absolutely knew either to be or to have been involved in extensive I. D. B. transactions, but who were now getting rich, and therefore men of influence in a town where the faculty of making money anyhow was the only one that "got a man on," were making sarcastic comparisons between Hounslow Heath 100 years ago and the diamond fields of today, and were asking ugly questions about the efficiency, nay, even the incorruptibility, of the police force in general and the detective department in particular.

It was this last suspicion that touched the puzzled and harassed inspector most keenly. As a practical man he had no belief in miraculous escapes or the possibility of people being in two different places at once, and gradually the conviction forced itself upon him that the immunity of the gang from capture and its invasion of trap after trap that he had laid for it with all the skill and cunning at his command could only be due to the connivance of some of his own men and the Free State police, which he knew to be anything but immaculate.

This conviction led him at last to the resolve to risk not only reputation and position, but life itself, in the attempt to personally break up the gang, or at least to penetrate the mystery which shrouded its doings and shielded it from justice. This resolve once made, it did not take a man of his character very long to translate it into action.

He caused certain information to leak out, as it were, through underground channels which were always at his service, to the effect that in consequence of strong suspicions that the Diamond mail to Vryburg was going to be held up by the border gang on a certain night when it would be carrying an exceptionally valuable consignment of gems the stones would be run the night before, as though they were an illicit parcel, over the border to Freetown and thence conveyed in the usual way to Port Elizabeth instead of Cape Town. The Diamond mail of the following day was to take no consignment at all, but was to be accompanied by a double guard.

On the appointed night the inspector had a score of his best and most trusted men, armed to the teeth, posted along the border within hail of the point where the road to Freetown crosses it. On the other side a detachment of the Free State police was by arrangement with the district chief to be lying in wait ready to act in concert with them and to catch the gang between the two forces at the moment of attack.

When Inspector Lipinski set out that night to take his part in the working out of his scheme, he took an even more than usually affectionate leave of his daughter—a pretty, graceful girl of between 16 and 17, who was the incarnation of the one romance of his life, the daughter of the only woman he had ever looked upon to love and long for and the one rose that he had saved out of the paradise that he had once dwelt in.

He went to his office and changed his uniform for a suit of clothes that he had never been seen in, a sort of semi-sporting rig, that he had had up specially from Cape Town, put his favorite Smith-Wesson in his right hand coat pocket, and then started out to walk to Beaconsfield. On the way he overtook his Kaffir groom, leading his best horse. He mounted, saw that the pair of heavy

He took an even more than usually affectionate leave of his daughter.

Colts in the holsters were ready for immediate use, and then cantered off toward the border, which he had timed himself to reach a little before 1 in the morning.

(To be Continued.)

There are many thousands of wise women in this country who, when they found that they were suffering from weakness or disease of their distinctly womanly organisms, promptly wrote to an eminent and skillful physician, with a world-wide reputation, instead of trusting their cases to some obscure physician with but limited practice and experience. There are many reasons why a wise woman follows this course. The chances are that an obscure physician of small practice will not diagnose troubles of this nature properly. If he does, he will insist on the obnoxious examinations and local treatment from which every sensitive, modest woman shrinks.

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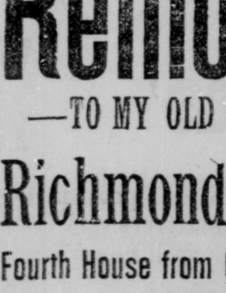

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—C. A. A. A.—

Annual Sports!

The Annual Sports of the Charlottetown Amateur Athletic Association will be held on their grounds, CHARLOTTETOWN

Wednesday, September 6th, 1899

The following is the programme and prize list:—

1.—One Mile Bicycle Race, Novice—1st Gold Medal; 2nd and 3rd Silver Medal

2.—Half Mile Bicycle Race (Time Limit)—1st and 2nd Gold Medals; 3rd S. Medal

3—220 Yards Run—1st, Gold Medal; 2nd, Silver Medal

4—1 Mile Bicycle Race (Time Limit)—1st and 2nd, Gold Medals; 3rd, Silver Medal

5—One Mile Bicycle Race (Boys under 15)—1st, Gold Medal; 2nd Silver Medal

6—Sealed Distance Bicycle Race—1st and 2nd Gold Medals; 3rd, Silver Medal.

7—440 Yards Run—1st Gold Medal Silver Medal

8—Two Mile Bicycle Race (Lap) 1st and 2nd, Gold Medals; 3rd, Silver Medal

9—One Half Mile Bicycle Race (Against time with permission for pacers) 1st, 2nd and 3rd, Gold Medals

10—880 Yards Run—1st, Gold Medal 2nd, Silver Medal.

11—Three Mile Bicycle Relay Race—Teams of Three representing Clubs or otherwise, Silver Cup.

12—5 Mile Bicycle Team Race—Massey-Harris Trophy.

Entries close September 1st with the secretary. Entrance fees 25c each entry, which must accompany the entry, otherwise it will not be considered complete

—Band In Attendance—

TRAIN ARRANGEMENTS

Leave Tignish, regular train	5 00 a m
" Alberton	5 40 a m
" Bloomfield	6 06 a m
" O'Leary	6 21 a m
" Port Hill	7 14 a m
" Wellington	7 45 a m
" Miscouche	8 04 a m
" Summerside	8 25 a m
" Kensington	8 48 a m
" Freetown	9 03 a m
" Emerald	9 13 a m
" Bradalbane	9 19 a m
" Hunter River	9 43 a m
" Wiltshire	9 53 a m
" Royalty Junction	10 25 a m
arrive Charlottetown	10 40 a m

For West—Special leaves Charlottetown at 5.00 p m, connecting in Summerside with regular for Tignish, leaving at 7.45 p m

Leave Souris (regular train)	5 10 a m
" Bear River	5 41 a m
" St. Peters	6 15 a m
" Morell	6 37 a m
" Georgetown	5 55 a m
" Cardigan	6 10 a m
" Peakes	6 40 a m
" Mount Stewart	7 10 a m
" Bedford	7 32 a m
" Royalty Junction	8 00 a m
arrive Charlottetown	8 15 a m

For East—Special leaves Charlottetown for Georgetown and Souris at 5.30 p m

All Standard Time

FARES

Tignish to Pinsville	$1 25
Bloomfield to Portage	1.15
Conway to Richmond	95
Wellington to St. Eleanors	85
Summerside to Freetown	75
Emerald to Freetown	60
Clyde to Wiltshire	45
Colville to Charlottetown, single fares	
Kinkora to Cape Traverse	75
Souris to Bear River	85
Rollo Bay to Midgell	75
Marie to Douglas	60
St. Andrews to Tracadie	45
Bedford to Charlottetown, single fares	
Georgetown to Perth	75
48 Road to Peake	60
Pisquid	45

Arrangements are being made with the I C R to issue RETURN TICKETS at One First-Class Fare from all Stations in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia to Charlottetown on the 5th September, good to return up to and on the 8th.

Pictou to Charlottetown, and Point du Chene to Summerside, Single Fare, good for passage on Tuesday, Sept. 5th, return Thursday, Sept. 7th.

Admission 25c. Grand Stand 10c.

Sports begin at 1 p. m. sharp.

B. C. PROWSE, President. E. H. BEER, Secretary