AN ALTERED PURPOSE

CHAPTER I .- (Continued.)

"You had better do it, Jack," said Otterson, interposing. "I can see this young fellow means what he says. I did not like his look at first; but I do now. You can take him round to the place, and I will go on to my new people. We shall part good friends, Jack, after all."

"but I do not care much how it is. I am glad we are going to part, as you have turned out so nasty.-Now, Mr. Rodbury, if you are ready, I will take you round to our place."

The stranger rose. He was a tall, well enough built young fellow, and shabby coat with a different air from that of either of the burly fellows in you advise them." his company; yet, for all that, there not a bad career.

This his new partner had early noted; but his own experience had made him so, without further delay, he set off

It was now dark, or so nearly dark the genialty of Sparle. that the street lamps were lighted, and up also. In a yard at the back of a shabby terrace near the water-side, horse, a large wagon or caravan, and

a collection of goods. and as a matter of fact, I am giving you the lot. It is only the goodwill and the training you are paying class. for .- Now, come on; you shall hear something about me, and I will show you my receipts." He took his new friend to a gay bustling public-house known. Here the landlord testified to his respectability and to his solvency, avowing that Jack Sparle's simple note off hand was good to him, the landlord, for fifty or a hundred pounds any

"Now, I have dealt straight with you," summed up Mr. Sparle; "and I shall expect you to be as straight in return. Where is this friend of yours, and when can you have your money?

Rodbury intimated that he was ready to set about his arrangements at once, and said that he could make an appointment with Sparle for the next day, to settle, if that would do.-Yes, that would do very well .- "You will not object to a cheque, I suppose?" continued Rodbury. "You can get it cashed, I daresay?"

ble me," returned the other; "and I shall not give you anything for it, not even a sixpennorth of coppers in change till I know it is all right. So, if it men, were unusually good-looking, in Curses are like processions; they re-

"I might have guessed what your what I shall pay you."

friend?" asked Sparle.

enough; so, good-night.

companion, and went quickly off, glanc- self to please and entertain him. ing round once or twice, to make sure | During one of their visits to Lona spy, and never will be."

hed him a long way and to a very dif- and could take a public for his wife, if ferent part of London, until finally he she was so disposed any day of the week. stopped at a house in a large and re- and any week in the year, without putspectable street in the West End, a ting his hand in any man's pocket but pected in Spain, has found its way into house at which few persons of his as- his own. To say "no" to Bill Stakerly!" the bull ring. At a bull fight in Mad-

pect were likely to call. Rodbury demurred, naturally enough, enormity of his sister's conduct. The ter's presence; but when the latter seemed able to treat the matter more the Picador Badila, both of whom gayheard that a rough-looking man wished philosophically afterwards, and even to to deliver a message to Mr. Ashwell Laugh at his own anger! But the in-

ordered to show him in. me," began the master of the house; problem of difficulty.

here now in such a guise?" exclaimed ness you would never wish to see"-Mr. Ashwell, with a total change of thus ran Mr. Sparle's opinion.

to-night; nor will I now tell you much to find Rodbury at his house before of what I am doing," returned Rodbury. him. This was only remarkable from "What I have done, you know; and in the latter having said nothing of such what danger I am, you know too. I an intention. Mr. Sparke was still fur-

Ashwell. a combination in your case happry im- mingled feelings and recollectionshad been-what you are, you might, I suddenly to conviction-stayed him. believe, have relied on me. I need two Then, ere he could recover himself, ed in the statement-There's music in bundred mounds, in two cheques. With Rodbury exclaimed: "Let us have no the air.

this I see my way to hiding myself, and leading a coarse, vulgar sort of life, but without any particular harm in it. I

can have it, I hope?" "Instantly; and I only wish I could find the means of helping you to something better than you describe," replied his triend. "I should like to attach one condition to this help, to which you are heartily welcome. I should wish you to let me know, sometimes, where you are, or at any rate, how you are "Perhaps we shall," retorted Sparle; faring. I shall not press you further; I will leave it all to yourself."

"Thank you, Herbert," returned the other. "Perhaps I with do so. You will smile if I tell you I am going into business with this money; and you would smile or shudder-I don't know which—if you could see my partner. That reminds me that I should like you to make the cheque payable to a numnot bad-looking, while he wore his ber, and sign it with initials. The London and Westminster will cash it, if

drew a cheque-book from a drawer near very much, you may ay long odds. Let was a something, a slovenly dissolute to his hand, and in a couple of minutes us go round to the Fox and Goose; we something in his very look, his every the required slips were handed to Rod- shall be quiet there, and can say all movement, which told of a wasted if bury; then, with a brief dasp of the we have to say in a few minutes."

His partner complied so far as to

This was the commencement of the ter on such business as was in hand far from fastidious in such matters, and added, so generally liked on the without going to the hotel indicated. partnership between Jack Sparle so well without going to the hotel indicated. ern road, and Frank Rodbury. The lat- his shrewdness great credit, and was with Mr. Rodbury in the direction of ter soon proved to be of great use in answered with more or less candour. his stable and depot; Otterson parting which he was qui ker, co der and "troad Sparse at the close of his questioning, company, having, as he declared with er" in his work than Jack Sparle, "your name is not Rodbury, is it? Be sufficient emphasis, something on hand shrewd as the latter undoubtedly was. straightforward and say "yes" or 'no." which suited his book a great deal bet- But the new partner never became so "It is not," answered the other depopular as the old one; he never possess- cisively; "but it is the only name by ed, and could never assume, a spice of which I intend to call myself in future,

So Mr. Jack always maintained of nemost of the shop windows were lighted cessity, the lead to the business, and this should be so; yet, in spite of this, there was something about the junior you?" Frank Rodlary was shown a big strong in the firm which influenced and almost controlled his partner. Sparle felt that his colleague had not much in common with their usual associates and "The things are worth more than he could not fail to notice that the craft- a name. I do not fancy you will enyou are going to pay," said Sparle; lest of these "fought shy" of Rodbury; nor did the most swaggering venture on any of the practical jokes with him which were much in favour with the

In consequence, perhaps, of this, Spanie unconsciously treated Rodbury somewhat differently from the manner in which he had dealt with Otterson, and with others before the latter. He close by, where he seemed to be well could hardly be said to like his new partner better than he had liked his and ones; in fact, it was with him a frequently recurring question, studied over his pipe and his glass, as to whether he really liked this queer chap at all. Nevertheless, as said, he could not help treating him in a different style from his predecessors, and amongst made up her mind; so do as you please." other things he took him to his house, not to his place of business, but to his own home, where were found such family ties as he owned. These were two sisters—a girl of nineteen, and one of two or three years younger.

> "I am five-and-thirty," said Sparle, in his introduction; "so they look up to me as a old man," he said, "as a old man;" but it is hardly necessary to reproduce all his oddities of speech, of which this is one of the most striking examples. "There was ten of us," he went on; "but all the rest died off in two or three years; so did the mother. My governor died long before."

Jack Sparle had been a fellow good enough to be the main support of his "Cashing a cheque would not trou- mother and sisters during the declining health of the former, and he was a fellow good enough still to say nothing about this to his new friend. Rose and Matty, the two young wo-

did not turn out all right, it would be which particular they resembled their turn to the place from whence they brother Jack. Their attraction was ra- came. a good deal worse for you than for ther of the showy "barmaid" style, it Philosophy is a good horse in the stawas true; but they were attractive, be- ble, but an arrant jade on a journey. yond doubt. At first Rodbury treated them with but slight attention, much answer would be," said Rodbury, with of the trifling civility he did show bea smile. "I will take my chance as ing bestowed upon the younger. He to there being anything wrong with was never rude or churksh; in fact, to each of these girls he seemed a cavalier "Am I to go with you to your of high breeding, and perhaps his con- there is little sorrow, and the deepest "I ought to duct piqued Rose. In any case, on his sorrow without any tears .- Johnson. recurring visits he gradually grew more "We'l, you will not know!" inter- conversational with her, while she un- of obstinacy; we do not easily see berupted Rodbury. "My money will be doubtedly looked forward to his coming all the reference I shall give. I have and, as Matty noted, and in consequence trusted you with ten pounds readily induiged in a great deal of sisterly satire, was always at her smartest when With this abrupt farewell he left his he came, and never failed to exert her-

appeared, Mr. Sparle muttered: "This absurd ways, and utter want of busi- the wrong grave. is a different beginning in a cheap-Jack ness-like judgment. Rose furnished the Longfellow says that the talent of business from any as I ever saw be- occasion for this tirade, as it appeared success is nothing more than what you fore. I wonder what my new pal has that she had refused an offer of mar- can do well, and doing well whatever been up to? But Jack Sparte never was riage from Bill Stakerly. "Bill Stakerly you do, without thought of fame. erly, you know!" he repeated, with em-Rodbury hurried on his errand, which phasis; "a man as owns nine caravans, The servant who opened the door to and held forth at great length on the from a gentleman, the domestic was cident made an impression on Rodbury. As soon as the bull was let loose Rod-"You say you have a message for appeared to be meditating upon some

but checking himself, he told the foot- | Sparle had by this time grown accusman not to wait; and the latter, who tomed to the occasional exhibition of had hesitated at Ceaving such a char- these moods in his partner, "who had acter alone with his master, disappear- as much learning and conversation as a lawyer or a parson, but was some-"Why, Cyrus! What, in the name of times so cranky and silent that you all that is horrible, have you been doing could never quite tell where to have with yourself ;-and why do you come him. But a sharper fellow in the busi-

"Sit down, and tell me all about He was a little surprised, on returning home one evening, after a day spent "No. Herbert; I must not stay long in the purchase of goods and so forth, always calculated on your friendship"- ther surprised by his partner rising, "You may, to the last!" interrupted coming towards him as he entered the son. room, and then shaking him heartily "Yes, I know it. Even as if you had by the hand. He opened his lips to been as great a rogue and fool as I am, ask the meaning of this; but a rush of possible," continued his visitor, "and I vague the moment before, but grown

secrecy in such a matter, Sparle! Your sister has promised to marry me, and I give the notice at the registrar's tomorrow."

"Yes, it is true, Jack," said his sister, in answer to his inquiring look. know I offended you about Stakerly;

I hope I please you now?" "We'd, I wish you luck," said Sparle at last. "I know you will take care to please yourself at anyrate, whatever you choose to do. Well, I shall not attempt to interfere. I hope you will be happy-that is all .- I should like a little talk with you, however, Mr. Rodbury, and"--

"I expected you would say as much," interposed the other, who had smiled cynically at the doubtful, lukewarm benediction pronounced by his future brother-in-law .- "So, Rose," he continued, "I must go and talk business with your brother, as I to'd you I should have to do."

"I cannot see that it has anything to do with you, Jack," said the girl, whose heightened colour gave evidence of a temper easily aroused. "I

am my own mistress." "You are," returned her brother; "and try to be so over every one who Without another word, Mr. Ashwell comes near you. I shall not interfere

deave with him, but preferred to en-

and the cally name by which you will know me."

"Why-but-confound it!" exclaimed Rodbury had sense enough to see that his companion, "you are not going to marry Rose under a false name, are

> "You know, I am quite sure," returned Rodbury coolly, "that such a marriage is perfectly legal if the wife did not know her husband had assumed lighten Rose; so your sister will call herself and really be Mrs. Rodbury."

"Well," said Sparle after a long pause, "I suppose you are right. I shall not split on you. I should get no thanks if I did. However, I will just give you a hint. Rose is a trump, and will go through fire and water, danger or death, for a man she likes; and she | the waste of tissue. likes you. But if you do not mean to act fair and square by her, my advice wish to infer that people should allow to you is to draw back while there is their stomachs to experience the sentime; for if you thoroughly offend her, sation of hunger, by taking whenever have in the world, than run your of pie, or some similar light article. chance with her. She would never

Rodbury's answer to this was a laugh, a broad open laugh; he said nothing, and there the conversation dropped, save that Mr. Sparle once mutter- the body is to exertion of any kind ed in an undertone; "A pretty pair they

coming, the lovers were duly married, in a district at the east of London; in the parish of West Ham, indeed. Neither of the contracting parties lived there, so a little further misdescription was necessary, but, as Mrs. Rodbury said, "Lor! what does it signify!"

Indeed, to have hesitated then would have been, on the gent'eman's part, in truth, straining at a gnat after swallowing a full-grown camel.

(To be continued.)

GRAINS OF GOLD.

-Goldsmith. Moderation is a silken string run-

ning through the pearl chain of all virtues.-Bishop Hall. Tears are often to be found where

Narrowness of mind is often the cause yond what we see.—La Rochefoucauld. Not to do honor to old age is to demolish in the morning the house wherein we are to sleep at night.—Alphonse

Karr. If some men could see the epitaph he was not followed. There was no don, Sparle broke into a denunciation of their friends sometimes write they danger of this, however; for, as he dis- the unreasonableness of women, their would surely believe they had got into

BULL FIGHTING ON BICYCLES.

The bicycle, as might have been ex-Sparks was unfeignedly exasperated, rid a few days ago the spectators were not a little gratified at the innovation at admitting such a person to his mas- explosion probably did him good, for he started by the Matador Rodriguez and ly wheeled themselves into the arena He was more reserved than usual, and riguez turned quickly out of reach, amidst the laughter and jeers of the beholders. Badila, the picador, on the contrary, wheeled up bravely toward the bull, but could not manage to get a stroke at him. The bull took the innovation in bad part, and instead of going for Badila went for his machine, and at one stroke hurled the wheeler will, when rubbed briskly into the skin, into the air. The picador was upon his alleviate pain from overtaxed legs in a moment, and soon struck down the bull, but the machine was hopelessly shattered.

CONVINCING PROOF.

Cross-examiner-State it, please. house last night with an alleged quartet of singers, and, while even the dogs in the neighborhood howled their protests against the infliction he persist-

HEALTH.

HIS CHRISTMAS GIFT.

What can I offer her, my sweet? What's fair enough; what is most meet For love to take or give-A smile, a kiss, a tender touch? I fear I dare not proffer such And hope to live.

And since I cannot gain or get lewel or gem or coronet-Gauds that might please her well-Must this fair season come and go And bring her naught my love to show, My dream to tell?

'Tis passing strange a man should be Despised of love, forsooth, if he Be not possessed alas! Of worldly goods a noted store-That what he is should not be more Than what he has.

Nay, to such creed I'll ne'er subscribe; The love worth winning needs no bribe, So, scorning sordid pelf, I'll offer her as lover brave. The best, the only thing I have, And that's-myself.

WHEN SHALL WE DINE?

Many of our readers are probably not aware that the question, When shall we dine? is a very important one, and one that should be given considerable thought.

Stated times for eating, however, necessary as a matter of convenience, are attended with disadvantmany They frequently induce us of food when to partake system does not actually quire it, consequently we too often eat merely because the hour for a meal has arrived. The best way could it be conveniently adopted, would be to eat only when the appetite calls for food, and to stop as soon as it is satisfied.

People are too apt to take a heavy meal in the middle of the day, this is often the cause of a great deal of harm. Although laboring people return to work after a hearty meal, apparently none the worse, we would have our readers realize that the drain upon the system of these people, brought about by the laborious exercise that they experience, demands it, to replace

It has been proposed with the view mind killing herself, or you, or half- to devoting the afternoon to business a-dozen like you, if she once fairly with minds and bodies better adapted toe and the one adjoining is always to their pursuit, that the dinner hour well marked. This shows that the feet should be postponed to a later hour in the day.

We have all experienced how averse after partaking of a hearty meal. In fact, exercise whether mental or bodily, gestion.

We do not agree with those who restrict us to one meal a day. The stomach should never be left empty. anything while the body is in a state of fatigue, for the digestive apparatus is unable to perform its functions properly. When exhausted, always rest before eating. A glass of hot water may be taken with beneficial results.

-Florence L. Baldwin, New York.

A MEDICINE CHEST.

Almost everywhere knows what it is emergency. A medicine chest should have a place in every house, and the further one lives from dectors or drugfurther one lives from doctors or druggists the more urgent the need of it. sary to increase the size of the base of With a fair amount of knowledge in support. As a consequence there is a case of sudden emergencies such small severe muscular strain, the arch of the remedies kept on hand may often ar- al result. Many people who wear pointrest some horrible disease and save a ed-toed shoes think that by wearing a life. At any rate it is best to have shoe two or three sizes too long they a well stocked medicine chest in anti- avoid all danger of corns, bunions, inpation of coughs, colds, bruises and all tortures. the other disorders which arise in the family, especially if there are children.

through with them. They may be poison another time and should be destroyare poisons among them, such as car- where it should be widest, polic acid or corrosive sublimate, they hould not be kept among the other medicines, but should have a separate

It is not necessary that a medicine a permanent deformity. chest is made especially beautiful, if it is When properly fitted a child's shoe only large, clean, and provided with should be widest at a line drawn from lock and key that the children may the small toe to the base of the first not, in some of their mischievous mo- toe. With a shoe thus made there is ments help themselves.

grease or olive oil, and a bottle of common at the present time. castor oil should always be kept on hand. During the winter a glass or porcelain jar, tightly covered and filled with flaxseed meal, should be kept for poultices. Both alcohol and witch hazel strained muscles. Arnica is good for sprains if rubbed in well.

A bottle of spirits of camphor is really essential. A scratch will cease to smart if moistened with the liquid; a few drops on a handkerchief and held Cross-examined-You say you are will to the nose will help many a headache. ing to certify that the plaintiff in this A drop or two in a glass of water will case is not worthy of belief. Have you settle an upset stomach. Mustard good reason to consider him a liar? | leaves are much nicer than mustard Witness-I have-an indisputable rea- plasters and do just as much good. cold sores. If one is not near a drug at least. Witness-He came around to our store it is well to keep a few sedlitz

> Such things as baking soda, salt and | Sweet Girl-Um-perhaps you'd betpepper are always kept in the kitchen ter take the measure of my finger now, and their use for medicinal purposes is George

frequent. A solution of baking soda is good for stings and bites. A piece of salt pork sprinkled with pepper and tied securely around the throat has often cured some obstinate sore throats. For bruises an application of hot water, then one of cold is a good remedy.

or burns and scalds, one of the best remedies is Carron oil, composed of linseed oil and lime water. A hot water bag is one of the handiest remedies in emergencies. Nothing is so convenient in case of sudden cramp, rheumatism, colic, neuralgia or inflammation. For toothaches, earache, and face neu-

ralgia few remedies prove so efficient as hop poultices. For this it is well to keep on hand small flannel bags filled with hops, and, when needed, wring one out of hot vinegar and apply to the aching part. It is well, also, to keep on hand several bags made of cheese-cloth, for croup pounces upon its little victims so suddenly that no time can be lost. These may be filled with hot flaxseed meal or onion mush, and though they seem simple and trifling may prove to be a blessing on some cold winter night.

DEATH IN STYLISH SHOES.

The Toothpick, Razor and Other Fancy Toed Shoes Are Bad For the Feet.

The death of Richard P. Owens, of Trenton, N.J., several days ago as the result of hiccoughs caused by the scratch of a toenail, shows the danger to which one may become subject through the slightest injury. In this case it was the nail of a "hammer" toe that inflicted the fatal wound, Any other nail, however, is capable of inflicting the same injury, but to produce such an injury it is necessary for the nail to be attached to a deformed toe.

This deformity may be congenital, the result of an accident or, as is most common, the product of improper footwear.

Do you ever wear shoes is a question which of course, everybody will answer in but one way, and that is Yes. Now put the question. Do you wear shoes of the proper shape, and modelled after the shape of your foot? How many wearers of shoes will be able to answer the latter question in the affirmative? Not one in many, many thousands.

Of all the deformities resulting from following the dictates of fashion there At the same time, however, we do not is none so common as the misshapen foot caused by wearing pointed shoes. When we examine antique and classic you had better face all the enemies you things, such as a few crackers, a piece sculpture we find that the phalanges are always on a line with the metatarsal bones, and the space between the great were allowed to spread out as nature intended they should.

SHOES OF THE ANCIENTS.

The primitive shoe was shaped over No opposition, therefore, being forth- immediately after eating retards di- the foot, and was made to allow the toes sufficient freedom to insure the natural heel-and-toe gait. With the modern shoe it is very different. Fashion says It is a very great mistake to eat pointed shoes will be worn, and that settles it; they are worn regardless of the result.

The primitive shoe was made to conform to the shape of the foot, while nowadays, and in compliance with the absurd demands of fashion, the foot must conform to the so-called shoe. In observing pedestrians on the street it is a very easy matter to pick out those who wear the right kind of shoes from those who are slaves to style. The to have the whole household upset be- former step along with a comfortable cause something or other was wanted heel-and-toe gait, and their feet turn in a hurry, in case of an accident or out but little if any, while the latter

This turning out of the feet is necesfoot is injured and flat feet are the usugrown toe-nails and numerous other

This is a mistake. A long shoe is capable of inflicting quite as much harm as any other, for in walking the foot No medicines which have been order- gradually slips forward, the toes become ed for various sicknesses should be al- crumbled and overlap one another, and lowed to remain when the patient is sooner or later the inevitable bunion

By referring to the frontprint of a Inborer's shoe it will be noticed that 1. Every bottle in the medicine chest his "brogam" is widest over the toes. should be plainly labeled, and if there This is as it should be. The fashionable shoe, however, is always narrowest

PROPER SHOES FOR CHILDREN. The deformities spoken of are seen not

place and "Poison" distinctly marked only in adults, but many children, whose upon them. A corner of the medicine tender feet have been crowded into chest should be reserved for strips and pointed shoes, have paid the usual trisquares of clean, soft flannel and linen, bute to the goddess of fashion. Great so that the bureau drawers need not care should be observed in the fitting be overhauled in case they are needed, of a child's shoe, as it is a very easy and it will also save time and trouble, matter to distort the foot and produce

absolutely no danger of producing any A jar of pure vaseline, one of goose of the deformities which are so very

A MATTER OF BUSINESS.

Servant (from next door). Please mum, misses sends her compliments. and will ye be so kind as to sing and play the piano this afternoon? Lady. Why, certainly. Tell your mis-

tress I'm glad she likes it. Servant. O, it isn't that mum; she's expecting the landlord, and she wants some excuse for asking for a reduction of the rent.

TIME TO REFLECT.

Sweet Girl-Oh, this is so sudden. You Spirits of nitre heals sore lips and ugly must give me time to reflect-a week

Fond lover-Certainly. Even if you powders on hand and when troubled should accept to-night it would take with biliousness or constipation, take about a week to get an engagement ring made.