Life.

By JOSEPH HATTON,

(CHAPTER IV .- Continued.) At the same time Dick had no greator admirer than Andrew Foster, for the very reason that Morley admired his piece. Dick had qualities Foster ald not possess, resources he could not understand, was always merry, and combined with the manners and appearance of a prince, rare generos-

Unfortunately for the continuation of Foster's good opinion, Dick had of late made nothing and spent much, his gallantries being as expensive as his personal extravagance in other directions. Moreover, he had recently endangered both Foster's neck and his own by a piece of unnecessary recklessness that had rendered it desirable they should seek fresh woods and pastures new for their future operations. This had brought them into Yorkshire; and their quarry, as Foster called it, was this very Bellingham who had supped in the same room with them, and had been spotted by Dick with his usual promptitude.

The next morning when they were getting up the travelers had an interasting conversation.

"He is going to Newcastle," said Foster; "on his return he will stop at York."

"Yes," said Dick.

"Black Diston will shadow him meanwhile, and we will meet him at a convenient bend in the road near the abbey if the time is convenient."

"The money is not in doubt?" "Not in the least; we have information from a clerk in the bank,"

"The young fellow we drank with at Leeds last night?"

"You are devilish quick-the same." "Ab, now you are quite well again, Andy; you have not paid me a compliment for a week."

"I hope to pay you several before the month is out, and to see ourselves provided for the winter."

"Always practical," said Dick; "and between now and the Bellingham incident, what is your proposal?"

"The program is yours, not mine. We move on today, get acquainted with the roads, visit Harrogate, take a glance at York, and make dispositions for retreat to Whitby, where a sloop will be lying at anchor for us."

"You will forgive me if I change the ргодгать."

"Change it-" exclaimed Foster; "it is a settled scheme, and we are on it. And I never made a more complete plan of retreat nor a longer one, by your own wish."

"I shall take up my quarters here during those ten days."

"Then by all the oaths which bind us I will not forgive you." said Foster, hissing the words between his broken teeth.

"Why not?" asked Dick, paying more than usual attention to his toilet.

"Because you are at the old game. and I will neither be ruined nor hanged for you, except in the way of business-though, mark me, Dick, I will not tamely give you up. You are necessary to this work-it has got to be done. When it is done, you can come and stay here until you rot; for, what ever happens, I have done with you when this job is over."

"There is something wrong, truly," said Dick. "I have thought so many times this six weeks; you talk so much and so fast-reticent Andy, we used to call you-loquacious would be more truthful now."

"I mean business, Dick-never so much as on this occasion—and neither heaven nor hell nor you shall stop me, and if it comes to a quarrel between you and me, let it come-only don't forget that it ends one of us."

Foster spoke with calm, brutal deliberation. His manner and his language evidently made an unusual fmpression on the younger traveler, who paused while buckling his shoes. looked up into the sinister face of his companion and bit his lip as if to stop an angry retort.

"Your language is as ugly as your "you show your face," said Dick; teeth like Wild's bull terrier before she springs. What is it? Shall we go out and have a shooting match in the yard, and introduce a funeral into the outdoor entertainment of Kirkstall, or what other delightful surprise

have you in store for the natives?" "I mean friendship, honor, share and share alike; or I mean what we all mean when a comrade turns trait-

"Who is conducting this business?" asked Dick, standing up and confronting Foster.

"Up to now, you." "Then listen. I have other schemes beyond the Bellingham business which you will be good enough to allaw me to develop in my own way, It in my intention for the next week or se to fish in the Aire. I shall go into Leeds in the morning and buy bait and tackle; you will amuse yourself He wore his velveteen jacket, drab think you should reconnoiter Harrowill be ready to join you when you and her own.

"I know you well enough," said Fos-

"That is enough, Mr. Andrew Foster. I have stood your insolence and your threats for auld lang syne-you have inflicted them upon me because have been friend enough to go a step beyond our rights of share and share alike. I owe you a little money -it is only the low-born cur who serves his friend and mentions it-we will call a truce on this quarrel; but you shall answer it! And now let it stop, or, if you were fifty times my comrade and fifty times Andrew Foster, I would strangle you where you stand."

As he spoke, the young man, by a quick action of his right arm, pinned Foster to the wall as if he were in a

"There! Curse you, strong as you are. I could tear your heart out, if you had one! Curse you for a huckstering wretch!"

CHAPTER V.

Andy writhed under the young man's grip and words, grew livid and was clearly afraid.

Suddenly releasing him, Dick flung him to the ground, and drew a pistol from his breeches pocket.

Foster looked up for a moment, then gathered himself together and arose to his feet. He did not speak; neither did Dick. The deadly silence was at last broken by Dick. "Am I the chief?" he said, replacing

his weapon. "You are the chief," Foster replied.

"This is our first serious quarrel, let t be our last," said Dick. "It shall," Foster replied; "the man

who can twist Andrew Foster about as if he were a weathercock is good enough to follow." "You think so, truly? And no knife

in your thoughts, no knife or pistol on a dark night when your man is off his guard?"

"I am sincere," said Foster, thoroughly cowed.

"Your hand on it." Foster put out his hand. Dick took it, and as he pressed it in a peculiar way repeated part of the oath which bound the little company of so-called merchants together. "And whosoever he shall break his oath of fealty to the chief then and there in authority, his life shall be forfeit and may be taken by one and all; or, falling this just execution, he shall be deserted by all in the hour of his need."

"Those are the words, I think?" "They are," said Foster.

"You still subscribe to them?" "I do."

"Then it is I who spare your life, Andy: not you who spare mine, ch?" "That is so," said the red-eyed

"And we will forget all that has occurred to shake our tempers in Kirk-

stall." "And at Leeds," said Foster, ready to make the amends more complete.

"We are friends, comrades, brothers, once more," said Dick, with a pleasant smile. "After breakfast you will go on your way-at the end of the week you will report yourself. will meet you six days hence at York -a mile this side the last turnpike,

"Right!" said Foster; and such is discipline, when enforced by authority combined with superior skill and strength, that, half an hour afterwards the young traveler and his friend were breakfasting together as amicably as if there had never been the shadow of a cloud upon their intercourse.

They preferred to eat in the private room that overlooked the high road; Bellingham and two other guests in the general room.

It wase a cozy, wainscoated apartment, this private room that flanked the bar, and matched it with a large bow-window, which commanded a fine view of Kirkshall Abbey, with the Aire and a stretch of green meadows in the foreground, and in the distance glimpses of the river as it flowed in crystal beauty through one of the loveliest valleys in England.

As the two travelers were finishing their morning meal they were attracted by Tom Sheffield, the man of all work, leading to the door a smart cob, which was followed by a young fellow mounted upon a similar animal, the sturdy countryman vaulting out of his saddle to assist a merry-looking girl into hers. Not that Mary required his aid. She took his hands, nevertheless. It was offered with the grace of a perfect horseman.

Jack Meadows was Yorkshire born and bred, and if there is one thing s Yorkshireman can do better than any other man it is to ride a horse, and if there is one thing a Yorkshireman knows more than any other it is good horse when he sees it. Jack Meadows was a rough farmer; he sat with the dignity of an Indian and the confidence and ease of a hunisman. and smiled proudly at Mary as her gate and York study the roads-I horse curveted and showed its points,

"For a spin to Jack's farm," said

Moriey liked to have Jack esdows address him as "sir," e favored his suit for Mary.

"Do you think your change of preram will work?" Foster asked as Dick caught Mary's eye from the window and waved his hand to her.

"I think so," said Dick, as well he might, if the conquest of Mary occupled the important place in his pregram, which Foster thought it did; for Dick was quick to note the flush that stared fresh and ruddy upon Mary's cheek as she responded to his salute with a bend of her graceful head, and the sweet parting of her lips into a pleasant smile. "He is a stalwart-looking chap,"

said Foster. "The young countryman?" remarked Dick interrogatively, as if Foster might be speaking of some one else.

"Her lover," said Foster. "Do you think he is her lover?" "Don't you?" asked Foster.

"No; but you seem to think she is the cause of my change of plans." "You object to my thinking?" said Foster.

"When you doubt the truth and direction of the officer you have sworz to obey." "Yes; discipline is as necessary in

our work as it is in the army; that is Wild's motto, and yours-sometimes," "Always," said Dick.

"We shall see. But I am off study the ground, and you will fine me this night week, as you order, three miles this side the last York toll gate, at nine."

With which parting remark Foster left the room, paid his bill, ordered his horse, and presently cantered into the highway, past the little Hark-to-Rover

CHAPTER VL

As they rode away Jack said, "Whe is the foreign-looking noodle who waved his hand from the parlor window?"

He had caught sight of Dick Parker as Mary turned her horse's head toward the valley, and he noticed the blush which heightened her color as she bowed to the stranger.

"He's no noodle," said Mary, "On the contrary, I should say he can see as far through a stone wall as most." "Oh!" said Jack, "you have talked with him?"

"Not exactly: I have heard him

"Got the gift of gab, ch?" remarked Jack scornfully.

"Seems to have got many gifts," Mary replied. "His father's a nobleman; he has been in the wars, escaped in a merchantman through the French cruisers, lives in London, is traveling for pleasure, and also to see his father. He likes fishing, thinks he will stay a week or two at Kirkshall, rides well, knows all about horses, and foreign countries, has fought a duel and is as handsome as a picture."

Before Jack could reply Mary put her cob into a gallop, and went apinning along the road with her thoughts and fancies all centered in the young stranger at the fnn. Jack followed, his mind already in open revolt against the stranger, and ready pick a prompt quarrel with him about horses, foreign parts, French cruisers

or anything else. "'Handsome is as handsome does, is a good Yorkshire proverb," Jack said as soon as Mary pulled up again. "Yes; and I daresay it makes for him as well as if he were Yorkshire," said Mary, "I know nothing to the contrary."

"I never seed a French spy," said Jack, "but he's uncommonly like the sort of chap they talk of." "Who talks of?"

"Why, old Thompson and Jim Renshaw, who've both been in the wars." (To be continued.)

The Tog Boat Captain. A tug lay hard by, and the captain added his bit to my sociological nocturne, as I sat in the pilot house and peered out on the water, where red lights and green lights, with many of yellow and white dripped sigzag fashion down from the wharves and ships. "Where do you sleep?" questioned I. "Why here," he replied, "In this very pilot house, on that nice fluffy bunk you're a settin on; an' sometimes I sleep at that wheel, a-steerin' this boat, sir. Can't be helped, sir. The hours we work would stave in a trained nurse, an' send a sentinel to be shot. Why, man, I've seed the time when I've stuck by that wheel twenty grim hours at a stretch; once it war forty-two hours. when you read in the paper about towin' a big propeller clean through a dock, or jammin' her into her next door neighbor fer keeps, don't you say us tug folks are Johnnie Raws. Just say we're worked and worked till we sleep at the wheel. For that's God's truth, sir."-Atlantic.

Platinum in Egypt.

M. Berthelot, a French savant, has discovered platinum in Egypt. Examining a metal box, once the property of an Egyptian queen of the seventh century, B. C., he found a plate supposed to be sliver. Closer examination showed that the plate is made of an as you please in the meantime. I breeches, figured stock, and all that, alloy of platinum and gold. The box itself is otherwise interesting, its sides being covered with inscriptions and designs in gold and silver. halls from Thebes. The probably came from the allustal de-

Alfred Bayting, superinter public instruction, has repar After a few months of figuring upon the great mass of statistics submitted to it and discussion concerning the law lowing school statistics compiled by his kin. governing its duties, the state board office: Number of children enumerated Mor of equalization Monday closed up its between the ages of 6 and 21-Males, work. The result of its labors is an in-803,330; females 787,515; total 1,595,845. crease of something like \$187,000,000 in This number is somewhat too small, the net assessment against the propfrom the fact that the school census erty in the state as compared with the has not been taken in Chicago since net assessment made a year ago. Of the spring of 1900. Number of pupils Home this \$164,329,429 is the increase on perenrolled in school-Males, 485,350; fe- the sonal property, lands, and town and males, 578,284; total, 963,634; an incity lots, these items being included in crease of 4,723 during the year. Averthe report made to the state board by age daily attendance, 758,558, an inthe committee on general equalization. crease of 18,802. Average number The net assessment on railroads shows days the public schools were kept an increase of \$8,400,000 over the net 158.6. Number of buildings used for assessment last year, which shows school houses, 12,852. Number school houses built during the year that the board valued the railroad property \$42,000,000 higher than it did-176. Estimated value of public school last year. The work of figuring up the property, including buildings, grounds assessment on capital stock has not libraries and apparatus, \$50,839,941 been completed, but in round numbers Number of pupils enrolled in public the increase on the net assessment of high schools 40,639, an increase last year will be \$15,000,000. The bulk 1,881. Number of pupils enrolled in of the increase in the assessment on private and parochial schools, 142,076 a decrease of 420. Number of different personal property, lands, and town and city lots is in Cook County, and for the teachers employed in public schools most part the increase is the result of Males, 6,897; females, 19,632; total, 26, the work of the local assessors. 529; an increase of 316. Average monthly salaries of teachers, \$55.22; making the equalization the board males, \$61.69; females, \$53.51. Pinanmade no changes in personal property at all, and the changes on lands and cial statistics: Balance on hand July 1, 1900-District funds, \$5,428,240.28. Re- Mrs. S. Demuth of All lots were inconsequential when taken ceived from income of township fund as a whole. Among the more notable increases in capital stock assessments (rent of school lands and interest in were the following: The Chicago eleschool notes), \$837,121.29. vated railroads were raised on their amount \$542,587.85 was received net assessment from \$1,160,187 to \$6, Cook county, there having been 153,760; the Chicago and Alton got a ceived in Chicago from regts \$425. raise of \$2,751,825. The Union Stock-918.21; from state appropriations, \$ Yards went up just \$3,000,000. The fol-000,000; from district taxes, \$17,627 936.09; from sale of bonds, \$682,931.43 lowing per cents on lands were added to the local assessments: Alexander, 6 from all other sources, \$706,121.68, To-Bond, 35; Brown, 14; Bureau, 2; Clark, tal receipts from all public moneys. 15; Clinton, 9; Cumberland, 17; De excluding balance on hand, \$20,854, 110.49; an increase of \$1.684,490.90, Ex-Kalb, 2; Dewitt, 4; Douglas, 3; Fayette, 19; Franklin, 22; Galiatin, 11 penditures during the year. For sites. buildings, including permanent repairs Hamilton, 48; Hardin, 49; Henry, 2 and alterations, furniture, libraries and Jackson, 34; Jersey, 20; Johnson, 19 Kane, 5; Kaukakee, 18; Lake, 17; Loapparatus, \$3,465,229.34; for malaries of teachers and superintendents, \$11,854 gan, 5; Macoupin, 8; Madison, 3; Ma-772.41; for salaries of county superir rion, 4; Mercer, 3; Perry, 3; Pope, 28 Pulaski, 3; Putnam, 9; Randolph, 8 tendents, \$149,512.61; bonded indebted Saline, 6; Sangamon, 5; Shelby, 10; ness paid, \$570,531.80; for fuel and in St. Clair, 7; Stephenson, 5; Washingcidental expenses, \$2,146,680.53; other expenses, \$1,425,268.20. Total exton, 15; Wayne, 34; White, 18; Whitependitures, \$19,601,994.69; an increase side, 4; Williamson, 24. Reductions of \$1,274,873.57. Cash on hand June 36 were made in the remaining counties 1991, \$6,680,366.08. Amount of town in the following per cents: Boone, 6; ship fund invested and yielding rev Case, 5; Champaign, 15; Clay, 5; Coles, enue, \$14,877,286,51; amount not yield 2; Crawford, 6; Du Page, 10; Edwards, ing revenue (cash on hand), \$700,104.18 2; Ford, 4; Fulton, 4; Grundy, 8; Iro-Total amount of township fund, \$15, quois, 20; Jasper, 4; Jefferson, 3; Jo Daviess, 9; Kendall, 5; La Salle, 4; Lee. 577,390,69; an Increase of \$82,715,29, Av resued value of all taxable property & 11; Livingston, 7; Macon, 9; Mason, 7; the year 1900, \$809,722.465. Massac, 30: McHenry, 3; McLean, 5; Menard, 2; Monroe, 2; Platt, 12; Pike, 7; Scott, 5; Stark, 11; Tazewell, 2; Wabash, 3; Winnebago, 6; Woodford, 6. The assessment was unchanged in the following: Adams, Calhoun, Carroll,

Christian, Cook, Edgar, Effingham,

Greene, Hancock, Henderson, Knox,

Montgomery, Morgan, Moultrie, Ogle

Peoria, Richland, Rock Island, Schuy-

ler, Union, Vermillon, Warren and

L. Gaiser, president; Mrs. Harry P.

Cofer, vice president; Mrs. Joseph L.

Reat, secretary. Mesdames Gaiser and

the meeting of the state association.

which will be held in Rockford, Feb-

Gladys, 3-year-old daughter of

Joseph Wright, a prominent stock man

near Paris, climbed on a bureau and

grabbed a box of what she thought

entered the room just as the child

clapped six large strychnine tablets

into her mouth and swallowed them.

Death in convulsions followed two

Charles G. Schiene of Beardstown,

and Miss Emma Rethom of Chandler-

ville, were married Wednesday at Vir-

L. P. Bauer, superintendent of the

Peoria glucose plant, has announced

that the plant would begin operations

on the day after Christman. The plant

will start with a full force of 1,200

was dedicated last Sunday. Rev. W

N. McElroy presiding elder, and Rev.

T. C. Hiff of Philadelphia, conducted

the ceremonies, assisted by the pastor,

Rev. T. J. Wheat, and Revs. A. P.

Stover, of Springfield; C. W. Jacobs

of Casey; J. J. Dugan, of Pleasan

Plains; J. W. Davidson, of Evanston

and Charles Snow, of Jacksonville, for-

mer pastors of the church at Green

field. The new church was erected at

the cost of \$16,000. Joseph W. Powell

of Buffalo, N. Y., attended the dedica-

tion, and during the day raised the

sum of \$6,000 by the bond system from

among the congregation, which amount

eliminated the debt of the church and

Franklin A. Hammer, aged 72 years,

died at Beardstown after a short ill-

ness with pneumonia. He was former-

ly county assessor and treasurer, and

for seven years was president of the

stockholder and director of its succes-

Cass County bank, being at present

left \$2,000 in the treasury.

The new M. E. church in Greenfield

mother

was Christmas candy. The

TUATY 18-21.

hours later.

workmen.

Marshall, McDonough,

Albert Griffiths, well known through out sporting circles as "Young Griffe," a clover light weight pugilist, has been forced to quit the ring because of a valvular affection of the heart that may bring death to him in the ring at any time. Dr. McGregor, physician of the Olympic Athletic club, at Chicago, examined Griffiths, and because of his weakness refused to permit him to enter for a match for which he was scheduled Wednesday night,

The domestic science department of Senator Mason, chairman the Coles county farmers' Institute has pure food commission of the United to ship his personal chosen officers as follows: Mrs. John exposition at the Collseum in Chicago Saturday night. The portly junior senator from Illinois sampled malted Cofer were chosen as the delegates to milk, buckwheat cakes, kidney beans and apple cider and declared they were all that could be desired. With his party he visited the sideshows, talked with the Burmese midgets, saw the Streets of Cairo, and called at German inn. When Johnson made his high dive from the roof Senator Mason was an interested spectator. "That looks very much like the fall of the politician who drops from the 'ma-

Before leaving St. Louis Saturday the Illinois world's fair commission made satisfactory arrangements, with the building and grounds committee of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition. company for a site for the Illinois building. It is understood, although not officially given out, that the Illinois building will occupy a space equal in prominence to that given to the Missouri state building commission. It will be located somewhere near the Missouri building, which is to be one of the most important struetures on the grounds. The members | graving b of the commission express themselves ! as satisfied with the site.

Plans of money lenders to the the salaries of seventy-five Chicago policemen and firemen over the holidays were frustrated Saturday by Assistant Corporation Counsels Mason and Fitzgerald, who authorized the money to be paid against the protests of lenders. Fifty policemen and two five firemen, to whom was due ! fice and declared the attempt to b for their wives and children, to nothing of meeting bills.

and Miss Allen M. Ament of Litchfiel sor, the First State bank. Sampel Haggard, a well-known resi-

kindly to the George M. McCorm muth says the sux

inmutes. The me the board without Frank P. Bargent, ference in New York Creve Coour club, a ganisation at Peorla, that

will have authority to

or the Cells Co called for by the Cal turning over the m then admitted that he w make good the me

and T. L. Kenny; d

amount of the al