CHAPTER XII. - (Continued.) "Roger," exclaimed Alison, passionately, "this must be Fergusson's doings he must have tampered with your letter and cut out the entry in the ledger, and of

course the check is in his possession." "Wait a moment, Allie," returned Roger, looking very stern and pale. "The check was cashed the next morning by a clerk of ours who was turned away for dishonesty; but the bank did not know that, and thought him still in our employ. so the money is lost to us. My father is dreadfully angry and puzzled about the whole affair, but he does not suspect Fergusson. He flew in a perfect rage when I hinted about his gambling debts, He blames me for carelessness; he says I ought not to have left the office without looking up both the check and the ledger in the iron safe. Fergusson has told my father that he saw Ibbotson the clerk we dismissed, hanging about the yard talking to the men. He declares that while we were in the yard Ibbotson must have got into the office, turned over the letters and abstracted my receipt; he must have read the entry in the open ledger, and he knew all the keys, and would easily find the check. He has guiled my father completely; be has actually made him believe that, in ten minutes, or a quarter of an hour at the most, Ibbotson could cut the page in the ledger, track the check to the private drawer, hunt out my receipt and make his escape-and all this without any preconceived plan. Why, the whole thing is monstrous and utterly improbable. I am posi-

"Roger, oh, how dreadful it all is! Of course, there can be no doubt in your own mind who did it all?"

tive that the only thing Ibbotson has done

is to cash the check."

"There is not a shadow of doubt in my own mind, Allie; but how am I to bring my father to believe it? Ibbotson has left the place, or he was actually going to set the detectives on him. Fergusson has completely boodwinked him. Circumstantial evidence is strong against Fergusson, to my thinking. Judge for yourself, Allie he was with me in the office when I open ed the check; he saw me make the entry in the ledger, as well as write the receipt he also must have seen me thrust the check hastily into the private drawer be fore I ran out into the yard. No doub be returned to the office as soon as my at tention was engrossed with poor Mitchell A few minutes was all that was needed to accomplish the job, Allie. I have found out to-day that he is terribly involved, and that his creditors are threatening him. told you things are coming to a crash, am afraid we shall lose more than the sum we received from Simmonds Brothers." "Oh, Roger, how blind your father is

What are you to do to open his eyes?" "I am going to watch Fergussian," returned Roger, with a frown of anxiety. "Allie, I never meant to have told you thia. I have been about the town gleaning facts to-day, but I mean to keep them to myself for the next four and twenty hours Fergusson has arrived at some sort of crisis in his affairs. I am afraid he will do something desperate. A sum of money has come into our hands to-day after banking bours, in notes and gold. wanted my father to bring it up to the house, but he scouted the idea as ridhulous, as though any thirf could open an fron mafe; but, Allie, I am not comfortable in my mind. Supposing Pergussion has a duplicate key? My father is so hopeless ly duped that it is no use saying any more to him. I have made up my mind

"But not alone, dear?" "Yes, of course. Timothy will be there. If I need help, but I don't mean to take Timothy will be in his shed by that time, thinking about his supper. lighten Fergusson. There is a hands wood pile just outside the office where

can lie enng. "Roger" exclaimed Allson, in a gairk. determined roice, "ron shall not go abone I shall watch with you. And as he was about to interrupt her she went on quietly, "You know Missie and Miss Leigh will. be out until half past ten. l'apa is always in his study. They will think I am in bed. I can lock my door and put the key in my pocket, and you have the latch-key. I will be no trouble to you I will be as quiet could not sleep, knowing you that had man. I will be useful as a witness. You must take me, Roger, "Are you sure that you mean it that It will not hart you?" he asked, slowly

"Very well, you shall come if you like You are a plucky girl, Allie,"

CHAPTER XIII

the soung conspirators returned to the house, and the next two hours passed pery slowly to Alison.

At half past nine Mr. Merle was shut safely in his study. Alison went quickly into her room and made her little preparation. A brown hat she had discarded as being too shabby would just suit her noc turnal purpose; her dress was dark, and a warm jacket was all she needed; and carefully turning down her gas and lock ing her door, she crept quietly downstairs, to find Roger waiting for her in the dark | ing path unseen.

He podded and held out his hand to her without speaking, natil they were outside the gate and were walking rapidly down the road that would lead them to the her with horror-could she do it? Yes,

"I have brought this plaid," he obmerved presently, showing it to her. was so afraid you would find it cold we should have to watch many hours. don't think I ought to have brought ron,

"I could not have stopped at home," was Alison's quick answer. "In this the son back, if she had known it, and had bridge where we are to wait, Roger? How turned the key in the lock. Afison had black the canal looks!

rain," he returned, in a vexed voice. do not mind the moon being absent; the some unseen presence beside her given her arkness is in our favor. But what am | the needful strength? Was the dishonest to do with you. Allie, if we have a servant a prisoner, and she his captor wet night? You will catch your death of But Alison had no time to do more than

"Nonsense," replied Alison stoutly. But ertheless she felt an inward twings of incomfort. Neither of them had thought of the weather. How weird and eerie ev- ing at bay. thing looked in the obscure light, the lack towing path and the sluggish canal, tall factories, and beyond them the the distance. The very barge that stealing pape's meney out of the safe,

came figating toward them out of the shapes upon it.

In a few minutes Roger was helping her to scramble on shore. They were now at the extreme end of the timber yard, and had some way to walk.

Long before they had reached their destination the heavy patter of rain drops warned them to make haste; but in the uncertain light, and with so rough a path their speed was greatly retarded. "Here we are at last," whispered

Roger; "follow me closely, Allie," And she obeyed, holding his coat to give her courage. A pitchy blackness was round them: Roger's groping only led them still further into the darkness. Alison ex perienced a sense of suffocation entil a ray of murky light showed her where she was-ut the further entrance of one of the wood piles, with the office windows within a few yards of them.

Alison breathed more freely when she recognized her position. The interlaced planks formed an arched chamber, where they could move with comfort and be sheltered from the rain. Roger spread the plaid near the entrance, and bade his sister make herself as comfortable as circumstances permitted, while he went a little way to reconnoiter.

"I hope I have not brought you on wild goose chase," he said when he returned. "Timothy is eating his supper. We shall have to be careful when he goes with his rounds. Hush! What is that?" as a slight sound was plainly audible "Don't move, I implore you, Allie!" And Roger cautiously raised himself on his hands and knees and crept a few paces nearer to the entrance, but in a moment he returned and hade Alison to move further into the darkness.

"It is Fergusson: I heard his voice," he whispered. "Come a little further; Timothy has his lantern, and he might turn it on us; and now not a word if you can help it. Are you frightened, dear?"

"No." returned Alison, a little unsteadily, but at that moment she was cerat home. Roger's caution was not vain: a sudden flare of light penetrated the entrance of the wood nile; they could see two men; but at the moment the ian tern was lowered and Timothy's face was urned to his companion.

"A wet night, master," he said, in a grumbling voice. "I'll just go on my heat. and then back to the shed again."

"All right, Timothy," returned the manager, briskly. "I must just hunt for the paper I told you about. Possibly I may e a quarter of an hour in the office but I will call out to you when I am ready for you to let me out of the yard." "Ay, ay, I will let you out, sure enough, Master Fergusson, if so be an you strike

mon the little window in the shed." And

the old man moved on slowly. "Don't move, Allie; I'll be back in a moment," whispered Roger in her ear. And Alison remained where she was, feeling the dampness all around her, an inpleasant moisture beginning to trickly lown her neck. The rain was pouring n torrents outside; its very violence promised short duration. Presently Roger crept back to her.

"It is just as I said," he began, hur riedly. "He is unlocking the sufe; he has a duplicate key I was sure of it There is not a noment to lose. I dan not trust Timothy. I must go for my ather Allie, may I leave you here? You are perfectly safe no one would harm on. But one of us must watch Ferguson, which shall it be?"

"You must go, Roger," she exclaimed. You will go more quickly, and will know how to avoid Timothy."

"Very well, keep up your courage, Al lie, and do not lose sight of the cillain." he returned. "I will bring father back in no time. Wait where you are until Timothy has passed again.

Alison's reply was inamlible, but her mute assent testified obedience. That moment she was literally beyond speech; the horrid darkness seemed to swallow her up again; a nervous oppression made her heart heat with distressing quickness and quite a relief when Timothy present again; the familiar figure in the heav watchman's cost gave her a comforting oner . ' human support.

She stole cantionaly across the our eath, and in another moment she als tanding outside the office window. Therenecessarily darkened by the woodpile, but over the other the blind had been lowered a shot out prying glances. Alison suppercel, as Roger had, that he had locked ineself in to carry on his unhallowed aurk. The dark background of pileta: danks quite overshadowed the white girl

She was frightened at her own during but she remembered that she was Reger's witness it was necessary for her own eres to testify to Fergusson's dishones doings. Now there could be no mistake open safe was conclusive, and a were the notes and gold that he was stow ing away in that great black bag. Alison watched, half fascinated by horror. He had nearly finished; yes, he was locking his bag and closing the safe, the candle stood flattering beside him on a chair, not on the table; he almost pushed against it as he went to the door and so it men. Yes, he had looked himself it for she could see him take the key out and It was still early in the evening when I fix it carefully in the outer lock, and then had become of Roger? In another moment he could have escaped with his booty. The main entrance to the timber and was in the opposite direction to the private door opening into the garden of The Holms. Even if Roger and her fathwere coming in this moment, Pergusson would have no difficulty in cluding them was true the door was locked and Time othy had the key, but he could easily swim across the canal and reach the tow

> Alison's agony was rising to a p that almost justified rashness. She n. becoming desperate in spite of her terro.

sudden thought came to her, thrilling for Roger's sake she would try. Another second she was gliding round the little building and passed the curtained window with a gleam of light shining through the crevice. As she passed it there was sudden darkness; he had extinguished the candle. In another instant Alison had shut the door, almost knocking Fergusfelt a qui k, hysterie sob rise in her throat "I am afraid we are going to have us she heard the key turning under her "I hand. Had she really done it? Ilad ask herself these questions, for Timothy came out of his shed, and was hobbling toward her, and the next moment the key was in Alison's pocket, and she was stand-

> "What does this mean, miss? How came you here?" exclaimed the old man, "I have locked Mr. Forgusson in; he is

returned Alison, turning her white face to darkness seemed to hold dark, grisly Timothy, and the sob rising in her throat again. "I will not give up the key until

A flerce kick at the door behind her

drove her from it a few paces. "Let me out, Timothy!" thundered Fergusson. "The girl is mad; she must be out of her mind to say such things. Mr. Merle desired me to look over some papers for him; they are most important, and

there must be no delay." "You hear what he says, miss," returned Timothy, rather roughly; "we must not keep the master's manager locked up. I warrant you it is all right; they keep them papers in the safe. Give me the key and I will open the door for the gentlemau."

"Not until papa comes," was Alison's reply; and, in spite of Timothy's surly remonstrances and Fergusson's imprecations, she remained firm. Timothy was driven to his wits' end, when suddenly footsteps were heard, and Alison darted

forward to meet them. "Papa, I saw him at the safe; he was putting the gold and notes into his bag. I saw him do it!" she cried excitedly. "He blew out the candle, and then I lock-

ed him in. Here is the key." "Timothy, go at once to the police station!" exclaimed Mr. Merle, in a voice they had never heard before; it was so hoarse with indignation. "Roger, take your sister into the house. There is a fire in my study; I will wait here." "No, no; I can go alone," returned All

son. "Roger must not leave you, papa." But he repeated in the same curt way: Take your sister away, Roger, and be back as soon as you can." And Roger, who understood his father, hurried her ncross the yard and the garden, and did not leave her until she was in the warm. brightly lighted study.

"Take off your wet jacket, Allie," he harged her, as he left her; but there was no time to say diore.

Alison obeyed him. She took off her dripping hat also; and then she sat down on the rug and lail her head against her tainly wishing herself and Roger safely father's chair, and a flood of tears rehe came in half an hour later; but the tears were flowing more quietly. In his boyish exuberance he lifted her up as though she were a child.

"Here she is, father, crying her pretty eyes out! And no wonder, when she is so cold and tired. Allie, do you know you are a perfect heroine! You have done a placky thing, and no mistake!"

"Come and kiss me, Alison, my dear." said Mr. Merle. "You are a brave girl, and have saved your poor father's credit. Roger and you have done nobly to-night. I have let myself be duted by a dishonest rogue. Give me your hand, boy; does not become a man to ask his own son to forgive him, but I think we shall understand each other better from this

(To be continued.)

The section of the section of

********** A TELEPHONE MESSAGE.

~~~~~ It is said that corporations have no

souls, but it is certain that they appreciate the hard business fact that the man who takes care of their property is one whom they cannot afford to low. A little incident which confirms this view occurred a short time ago in Portland, Maine.

In the suburbs of the city is a new street which has not been paved. During the spring it becomes very modily, and the wheelst of passing teams sink nearly to the hub at places. Into one of these bogs a leaded team imaged one day, and a women in one of the neighhoring houses was forced to witness a brutal sight as the driver best and kleked his horse into attempting to pull the great lead out.

Finally she reported the matter to the police by means of her telephone, and an officer promptly came to the

reseme of the animal The next day a large express from belonging to one of the city corporations fell into the same dilemmer Fearthe former proceeding, the woman took her station to watch and jump for her telephone if herrseaff.

The driver, however, got down from his sent, certical his horse on the most, straightened her harmess, fed her sugar ish face peering in at the uncurtained from his perket, hid his head against her peck, and talked to her. Then he took hold of the bridle and gave her a gentle word of command. She pulled with a will, evidently trying to do all she could for her kind friend. Again he rested, petiod and fed her, and again she pulled, this time with his shoulder against the wheel. It took several attempts before the wheel flnally came out, but it was accomplished without a touch of the whip or a

The woman was interested and lonched, and believing that the commany whose name was on the wagon would be pleased to hear of the incident, took up her telephone, called up the office, and complimented them upon having such a man in their employ,

The next morning the same driver

alled at her door and thanked her for her kindness. "It was especially previdential, madam," he said, "as the company had determined to shorten help, and had told me that I would be through

last night. I have a family, and work

is hard to get just now, so I did not now what I was going to do. "Last night the 'old man' came and laid his hand on my shoulder when I went into the office to tarn in my colections. 'Tom,' he said, 'I hear you got stark out on W. Arenne to-day."

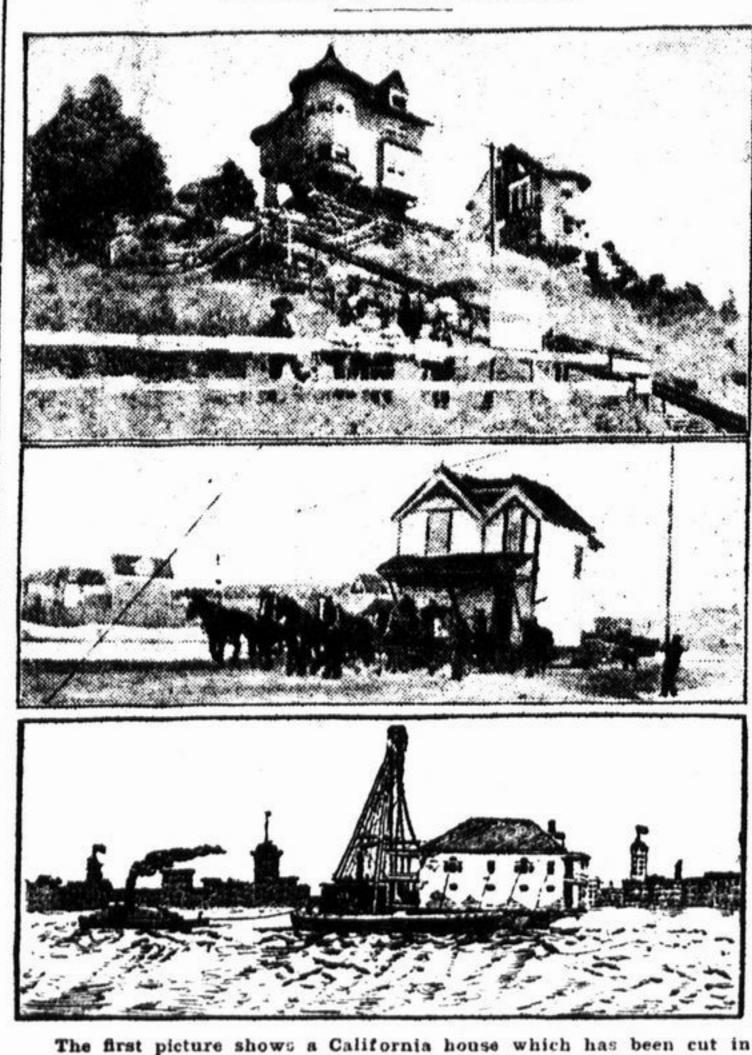
" 'Well, my man,' he said, 'we heard of that, and we want to say that a man who will take care of our horses like that is one whom we can't afford to let I guess that you can go right on the team next week just the same."

"I said that I had had a little

"I have to thank you, madam, for my job. It was your thoughtfulness that saved it for me."-Youth's Com-

Buenos Ayres is said to increase in nonulation 100,000 a year. Its present population is upward of 2.000,000. s the largest Spanish-speaking city in the world, and haif again as large as Madrid.

French enterprise is gradually overcoming the difficulties of living on the METHODS OF HOUSE MOVING.



wo for removal, the second a house being moved by horse-power, and the third house moving by boat.

Nowadays when a person wants to move and doesn't like to think of givmg up the old home, he tak s the old home along with him. This is not always easy, but frequently it is advisable to do it rather than go into a new country and build another home. The group illustrates some of the ingenious methods employed in moving houses. The California home was cut in tw and moved up the hill on a prepared roadway. The house shown on the barges was moved a considerable distance up the Hudson from New York, as shown in the picture. It was accomplished without serious mislan. The other picture shows a house moving in Winnipeg, where a good many horses were used as motive power, after the house had been jacked up on rollers.



~~~~~ It has long been known, theoretically, that the tides act as a brake on the rotating earth, and tend to lengthen the day. The effect, however, is slight that it cannot be measured any length of time at man's disposal. It may be estimated with the aid of certain assumptions; and using the data available, W. D. MacMillan has resent ly made the necessary computation by rica, it is affirmed, the elephant stock the formulas used by engineers. finds for the increase of the length of the day one second in 100,000 years.

The second largest masonry arch in

tention to beautifying not only th fronts of buildings, but the roofs as well, so that they may not offend the eye of the aesthetic traveler through the sky."

The expedition organized by the American Museum of Natural History which has been exploring the Fayum Desert, in northern Egypt, seems to have located the place of origin of the elephant in the Tertiary age. Remains of the ancestral form of elephants. called the Meritherium, were obtained. and restorations have been made by Charles R. Knight under the direction of Prof. Osborn. From northern A He migrated south through Africa, north into Europe, and east and northeast through Asia into America.

Oranges and all fruits of the citrus the world has, according to Engineer I family in Florida suffer extensive ray

SEA-BATHING ON OCEAN LINERS.



NEW AMUSEMENT FOR PASSENGERS ON BIG STEAMERS.

A new amasement for passengers on ocean liners and been introduced on board some Pacific steamers. It is a swimming bath on deck hig enough to hold about a dozen people at once. The bath is filled with sea water. Passengers can enjoy their swim without fear of sharks.-Illustrated London

ing News, recently been built on a new railway in Austria. This arch is the largest span of a bridge over the Isonzo river and is 278.9 feet, having a rise of 78 feet. The arch is of cut stone founded on re-enforced concrete foot ings, backing into solid rock. It is 6.6 feet thick at the crown. The largest masonry arch in the world is at Planen. Germany, having a span of 295 feet. and the hitherto second largest, at Luxemborg, with 277.6 feet sprin.

George Oakley Totten, Jr., of Wash ington, one of the American delegates to the International Congress of Arch tects at Vienna, delivered an address at the convention, in the course of which, speaking of the development of skyscrapers as a result of conditions in the United States, he said: "Conditions are likely to arise which will greatly influence the architecture of the future, To sail through the air is no longer a mere picture of the imagination, and gists the day may not be distant when the architect will have to devote his at- has to do is refrain from trying.

first appeared in this country, in Florida, many years ago, and is supposed to have been imported from China. It has now spread all through Florida and along the coast into Texas. Cali fornia, fearing its approach, has made efforts to keep it out, but in May, 1907 it was found established at three points in the northern-central parts of that State. The white fly not only directly damages the trees, but gives rise to a sooty mold which spreads over the leaves and discolors the fruit. The principal natural means of protection are four species of parasitic fungi, which, in favorable circumstances, give the affected groves one clean year in three. These fangi may be artificially disseminated, and fumigation is also employed to combat the enemy. No in sect parasites of the white fly are known to the government entomolo-

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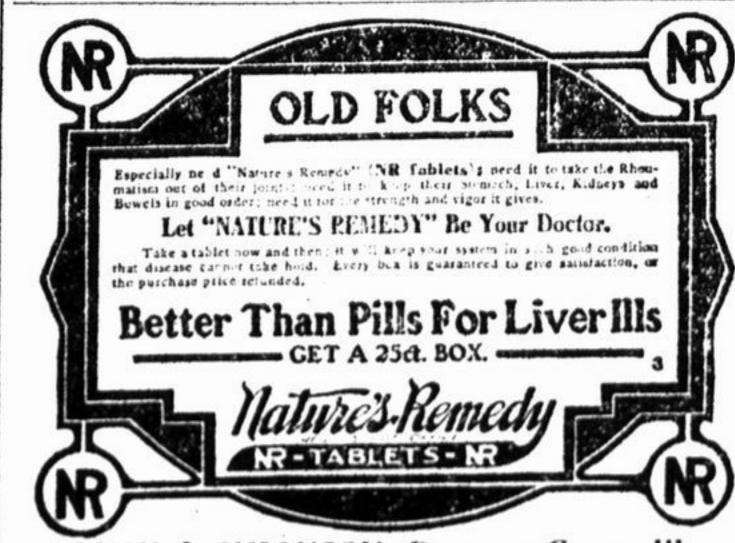


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