ne Protector of Finance of Resilius Marvel, Guardian of Bank Treasure

By WELDON J. COBB

THE DUPLICATE SECRET AGENT

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ced that Resilius Marvel, d Bankers' Protective asret and important mission, days the secretary of the ad attended to the duties It was also true that chelor quarters uptown and the shades drawn. He ter present at his accuss. I, his favored friend. a him since the Tuesday or all that, I doubted if gent and protector of the was one and identical ilius Marvel whose minor upposed him to be a thoudistant.

revived the last occasion had seen him, the more that my informant was some one else "doubleapplied this phrase at the casual glibness. I little pat was my surmise un. rand." gressed. Upon the eve-I to I had strolled over to m for a quiet smoke and him packing a grip. " he announced briskly

journey, a consultation ortune, this time." I my regret at losing his repressed my intense culever wasted words to no er made untimely dishen he got ready, or the right, or time developed ances, I would be duly

he directed, leading me den off the main apart something to tell you." to a sheet of tissue paoss a stand.

ndescript assemblage of what suggested shoe ttle beap of hard black gged piece of paraffine le of crisp brittle ashes. place," narrated Marvel, slipped through the door netal mail box yesterday In plain words, a missive | time," I ventured, ne was destroyed. Some as coming to me, or had slid lighted matches lot until the letter was

Valdez, a business man as a bank embezzler." Brazil. He did not prenot been with me more mission and to his brother, Colonel in the bud.

ulation," I suggested. gsome, drop over here and he handed me a the apartments. more speedily

been at his hotel pen window of a rail- I was lifted off my feet, fairly. fore he reached here

d clay soil."

after we had talked enette-it was Resilius Marvel. Marvel, "but I did

his office stenographer an- | up the letter in your mail box?" "Precisely. While I was conversing cible head of the famous with him a door was closed noisily in another apartment. I feigned fear of i gone to Rio Janeiro, Bra- an intrusion. 'Step in there for a moment,' I directed my visitor, opening myself. It was true that the door to that antercom yonder Instantly, taken off his guard. seized the reverse knob and held as I pushed the door shut. Then had my man down in black and white Unconsciously he had followed the prison rule of drawing to and hold ing tightly the door until the tier locking bar falls in place. When I an nounced a false alarm and called him back into the room, I had ready, spread over the blotter on my desk, a paraf fined sheet of paper. 'Just set your thumb on that corner while I tack it down,' I suggested. He did so, and that piece of it you see has the impress of his thumb. I made ado to do some scribbling on the sheet to subdue

"The identification bureau. Thanks to his thumb impression and my ability to describe my plausible visitor, I was practically convinced that I had been honored by a call from no less a personage than the notorious Rex Maginn, alias the 'Human Spool.' "

any suspicions he might entertain. He

went away satisfied that by night !

would be on my way on a fool's er-

"A strange pseudonym," I observed. "So awarded," explained Marvel, "on account of his brilliant record as an expert smuggler up along the Canadian border. This man was once captured by the Detroit police. They disrobed him to find some thousands of yards of fine lace wound round and round him. They began turning him in a circle. They reeled off vast quan titles of the stuff, until he fell down dizzy and exhausted, and they had to give him frequent rests before they unwound the discomfited human spool." "A known criminal, then?"

"Yes, but quiescent for a few years, the record runs. That is his system, however. He generally satisfies himself with pulling off two or three big things in a decade."

"And is probably preparing for one am unable to determine of those signal events at the present

"Beyond doubt. In plain English this man and his associates are bent upon some big scheme, probably in the bank line, where my absence is an essential. I wired the state prison. Our noon today," res med Brazilian friend was there this mora a visitor. He presented ing, and visited a long termer named announced him to be Dorchester Ickes, who is serving time

"If I can assist you-" I suggested vorably from the start | hoping that Marvel would let me. "I will cable you." was the response,

are I traced an with a dry, dry smile-"from Rlo." It was a case of "while the cat's supp his leading. posed to be away the mice will play." th five thou to my manner of thinking. I looked and to his way of think for something to happen immediately. it body and heels. There Three days passed by, however, and ouble at Rio, serious Resilius Marvel, according to the he various branches of schedule, should be forty-eight hours tily, rich as it was, pow- out on the Brazilian steamer Express. ays had been. Bankers, bound for Rio. While I was sure that sorters, their family in some big bank trick was about to be n peril from a circum pulled off, as the saying goes, I wonth I would be apprised dered where the lightning might ed Rio-with sealed in strike, how and when, and doubted not d you; for, although he that Rex Maginn would be in evidence ar to engage me at the when the culmination arrived. The the president of a New Human Spool did not put in an ap aboard. Then I glanced at the bit of thoughts. I turned, cogitating upon must leave an explana- pearance, however. I wondered if pasteboard in my hand.

order upon my return view of the house where Marvel lived ius Marvel. in. He further tendered At the side of one of the shades of his of a contract to be library there was a glint of light. The key my friend had supplied me, to "Capable man." were his applaudbrother. Two million shade had become disarranged in some take up watch and ward in those ing words. "Tell me about it." involved in the case. way. I drew back, walked forward, rooms of his. I reasoned that the I briefly detailed the course of seed in accomplishing stooped, and then got upon a hitching only other outsider likely to intrude events that had brought me up to the

apartment house, and waited.

Almost immediately I saw the man day was invading the room.

machine started away. significant and sinister about the man named Resilius Marvel. I knew that left it secretly by a side entrance deexcept his covert, nervous actions. I would suffice and atone. had no thought of following him. My The first train for Springfield, I and I was at sea. Then I went per the hat my visitor intention was to mount the stairs to found upon inquiry at the railroad sta- straight to the state prison. The first hese cinders off the Marvel's rooms and venture to in tion, left in an hour. I was one of its thing I found out was that he had reale from a locomotive, trude upon my friend. At just that passengers. I had no idea what pur- ly visited a prisoner there. It was y indicating that my functure, however, something hap pose I might serve by thus mixing up Ickes. The next thing I discovered

Standing in the shadow of a line of ploit. However, I could casually look tional Bank of Springfield. I learned t of the sole of his was a second machine. Its chauffeur the latter at Springfield might be watch, wait and have an interview und of the chair over was unobtrusively lounging in his known to my friend. Perhaps I would with this Daniel Morgan. We will rested it. There is a seat. As if by magic be started up run across Resilius Marvel himself. finish that end of the proposition irble dust mixed with A man made a flying leap from some I did not gain any results from a now"

d Resilius Marvel away from the ward it casually to put in the time. Nonser city so sa to leave the field clear for The

structed. I had seen him. I saw him gateway. again as I swiftly ran around the cor-

A score of theories presented them- article. selves readily to my mind. Of course the man with the tall hat was a figure of some importance in the case. was this person whom Marvel chosen to follow. Of course my friend was aware of the imposture going on. Since he had left the home end of the affair to take care of itself he must have provided for later picking up this strand of the proposition and following it up. For all that, as the lights some of the sleuth fever Marvel had imbued me with came into my veins.

Marvel Two came down to the street, drew his coat well up about his neck and shoulders and walked -went straight to a railroad depot. peared from view. down the stairs to the train sheds. dows and opened my pocket book.

ready?" a ticket and my change rapidly. I interfere with his actions? was not in shape just then to keep

described quarters were to be appro- | the beautiful garden surroundings priated by the people who sought to Slowly retracing my way townwards traveaty or scheme to intrude upon dupe him. Further than this, a coun- again I slowed up as I saw two men me!" warned Morgan in a strident terfeit Resilius Marvel had been con- come out through the iron-guarded tone.

ner and sought my old focal point Duplicate. Except in his walk and the the well-filled book shelves. He cool-Yes, there was the duplicate of my build of his frame he was Resilius ty walked to the nearest case, swung professional friend. He was standing Marvel-at a distance. His face was open its door, took out an up now. I watched him put on a pair well made up. A person who had only gantly bound volume and brought it of hideous eye-obscuring goggles and a seen the Marvel portrait would be de to the desk. The banker had no opfalse mustache. Under this new mask ceived. There were certain character portunity to resent or resist the ache no longer resembled the man he istics missing for a man who had been tion before my friend had opened the had counterfeited. However, the made intimate with the real Marvel, but this book, thumbed over a few pages and up face that was Marvel at a distance imposter might have walked through turned to the view of his unwilling was ready for disclosure when neces nine out of ten city banks and would host a full page portrait with accomhave been accepted as the genuine panying biographical matter on the

And then I fell to studying the Duplicate's companion. The latter wore no long beard, his attire was different from that of the man I had seen Marvel's apartments the evening previous, but he certainly was the man who had jumped into the automobile with Resilius Marvel in pursuit.

the Human Spool, and his present companion the white-whiskered man went out in that upper apartment and the president of the City National bank of Springfield, then indeed I had come upon the scene at an interesting juncture, to say the least,

The two men proceeded on a moderate walk until they had reached the along, unconcerned and apparently City National bank. Then they endisdaining all thoughts of being follitered it, the man I might suppose to lowed. I acted the shadow the best I be Morgan in the lead. They entered knew how. In an expert case I would it, but not by the front, where the probably have failed. In the present night watchman was seated on the instance I seemed to succeed. My stone steps. The banker unlocked a man-let me call him the "Duplicate" door on the side street. They disap-

words from the ticket agent hurried came out alone. He went around to the front, spoke to the watchman and I think I did a clever thing just then proceeded homewards at a leisthere. I hastened to the ticket win- urely gait. I did not follow him. Had I not the sure evidence that a faise "Same as my frierd," I said. "Train Resilius Marvel was now alone in that treasure house of riches, left to roam "You'll hustle if you make it," was at will, with the watchman very probthe reply. The speaker threw me out ably instructed not to disturb him nor

Of a surety the Duplicate was steadily on the trail of the man I had criminal. He could, therefore, only shadowed thus far, nor had that been have gained the confidence of the my intention. I saw a train pulling bank president with some evil purpose out just as I reached the train sheds. in view. It was up to me to act. The doubted not that my man was local police, were at once in

MYERN-W

NONSENSE! HE SAID . SIMPLY BUT FORCIBLY

town about two hundred miles dis shoulder. Inneiro. My visitor pro | The third evening, I found myself tant. I prided myself on having dis

Somehow I felt safe in using the sured as he spoke, ir would direct, I was to block to acquire the exact focus I there would be the Duplicate. Had I present point in my rather blind prognot seen him leave the city? Very ress. At last-there was Resilius Marvel, probably he had served his purpose in "Never that, though," commented in his accustomed easy chair. Stand- posing as Resilius Marvel. For him- my friend rather sharply, as I spoke promising," observed ing near a table in front of him was self that section of his plot was con- of calling in local police aid. "Rememy, wise way, "that I ac. a stout man wearing a full white summated fully. The scene would now ber, my province is rather to suppress The details were gone beard and a silk hat. He was drawing shift. Perhaps Marvel conjectured than punish. The man so confidingly pected to leave on the on his gloves as if about to depart I this same thing and would return. I placed in the bank yonder is Rex Maiff. The office can run walked around the corner, posted my sat down in an easy chair to wait for ginn." self in an open doorway adjoining the him. He did not come. I fell asleep When I woke up the light of a new

with the high hat come out into the As I left the apartment house. slammed its door shut, gave some and that name, "Springfield," seemed quick order to the chauffeur and the to lure me on. I left a brief note for wished no inkling of his absence or the president of the bank, whose con- mission to reach friends. He entered I had no reason to imagine anything fidential secretary I was. I mercly his city hotel, gray hair and all. He

province of Marvel to explore and ex embezzling from this same City

at both banks. The cursory visit gave friend placed one of his cards before the place where they turn back. They for represent the comprehend what two Resilius Mar late in the evening, however, and pasteboard a contemptuous toss into are always more formidable the ford lucifers. Next to vels meant and what that discovery therefore decided to view the palatial the waste banket at his side. He spoke there we go. Many turn back dishearthome of Daniel Morgan, president of one word, looking Marvel squarely in enert and very few will meet the m ter box. They bear There was a plan, then, not only to the City National bank. I strolled to the face.

the course I would pursue, when , and why my services Marvel had already nipped his scheme It read: "SpringSeld." That was a hand was placed abruptly upon my

ne-thousand-dollar bank headed in the direction of Marvel's covered at least the temporary loca hind me stepped Marvel. He was disested me to designate a apartment and I quickened my steps tion of the Duplicate. Then I re- guised in part, but I knew him in a a should deposit them, as I turned a corner to come within turned to the home quarters of Resil- flash. If I doubted-so many strange events were transpiring-I was reas-

"The Human Spool?"

"There is only one. He has done well. I nearly missed the trail, and it was a veritable needle in a haystack street. He turned in first one direc got breakfast and went down to for a while. The president of the bank tion and then another and glanced the bank, I felt that I must not re nere and the man with the white sharply down the street in both. Then main inert. More than once I took beard are one and the same. Why he he almost ran to an automobile stand out the bit of pasteboard that had thought best to visit the city under ing at the curb, leaped into it, cost me something over four dollars, an assumed guise I have not yet fathomed, but I judge it was that he nuded of all disguise. He was gone and that he had been pened, something so unexpected that with an intricate case solely within the was that ickes was serving a term for crapings, they are the trees opposite the apartment house out for the Duplicate. The presence of more there, and I came on here to

"Let me warn you, I will suffer no

Resilius Marvel leisurely turned The one I recognized first was the away. His swift eyes swept over again. opposite page.

I knew the book at a glance. It was a volume devoted to "Who's Who" in Leslie Forbes?" quietly questioned banking. It contained the leading Marvel. at financiers of the country, and a facsimile of the signature of every cashler in the United States and Canada, 'You wish to have me believe that

is your picture," observed the banker If the Duplicate was Rex Maginn, in a sneering tone. "Allowing for some resemblance-" Resilius Marvel boldly selzed a pen

and a tab of paper. He placed it beside the steel plate one in the book "Compare, if you please," he said "You are thinking of another Resiliu Marvel whom you met. If you chance to have any specimen of his hand writing, submit it to the test."

"Hah!"-it was a strange sound that clicked in the throat of the bank president. His hand went to an in side pocket. He brought out an en velope and scanned its enclosure some memoranda furnished by the Duplicate, or the like. He was on his seemed to flash across his mind. "What-what does this mean?" he asked, hoarsely.

you to give him full swing inside of your institution," replied Marvel decisively. "The loose ends of the explanation you had best wait to explore after you have made sure that he has not already carried out his designs."

It was half an hour later that the banker let us into the bank, just as he had introduced the Duplicate. He led us rather nervously and hastily way, and I accommodated them. into his private office, then to a waiting room, thence across the counting room and before the great vauit. He had told us on the way that had been given the combination to he had unset the system of burgiar vault and strong box. My counterpart alarms for the police at the sugges | made you believe he would, secrete tion of the supposed Marvel-possi. himself in that cabinet yonder, bly the most effective system in use whence he could watch all the movein the state. The vault door was open ments of your employes tomorrow. and he rushed beyond it. Then we You fell in with his ideas. I was heard a clang as he fell against one of barely in time to catch a glimpse of the inner doors.

ox looted!"

was out into the counting room, down Rounding the turn I saw him crossing the steps and outside. I followed some shed roofs. Just then the man

leave the bank?"

He had a satchel, the bank satchel, but I was ordered not to interfere with him."

quickly.

"Down that alley." Before I knew it Marvel had disap Marvel. peared. I was no crack sprinter, and of some use to him. Morgan came out | dred dollar note to Marvel. of the bank almost tearing his bair.

bank for some water. companion, but as the latter came only bed I've known for a month." within the radius of the street lamp I saw that he was not the Duplicate, stepped in, pressing the one hundred but a ragged, trampish-looking fellow dollar bill into the hand of the dum-He had a bleeding cut on one cheek, founded wanderer. which he was nursing with a handkerchief Marvel apparently had given town, my friend," said Resilius Mar-

directed Marvel to the watchman "See if your stuff is all right," he added to Morgan, throwing the satchel on the table as we entered the bank

He was at the telephone next, and I heard orders to the local police watch trains, country roads and slum quarters for the man described. Morgan had pulled open the satchel. Like some madman he examined package after package of money. notes and other securities.

"Safe and sound!" he gloated "What an escape! and-what does it all mean?" he cried, gazing blankly at Marvel. "You have a manager here named

"Why, yes," replied the banker, in

"And one of your employes named

Ickes was sent to the penitentiary by you for embezziement a year ago?" "What is the connection?" challenged the banker. "Simply this," explained Marvel

"that Forbes is the pivot upon which revolves this entire case. The man is a pervert, but a coward. He would not directly steal a penny, but this ickes, his friend, has had time to figure out a very pretty and elaborate plot in prison. Briefly, for some months certain irregularities have occurred in the bank that troubled you Never a suspicion came into your mind that Ickes, whom you implicitly trusted, was involved. Deftly, without your ever guessing it, he has made At its ticket office he purchased trans. It was fully half an hour before the feet, shaking with dismay as a light appear. He has even had the bal money and securities disappear, to reances overrun, all to convey the idea to you that some one or more of your three subordinates were borrowing se-"That a clever criminal has induced | cretly from the bank to gamble or invest. Two of your employes were sons of wealthy clients, and you feared to make a rash move. In the meantime, with the aid of one Maginn, the man in prison was setting up his scheme. Deftly, to relieve your anxieties, Forbes suggested the confidential services of Resilius Marvel. The plotters planned to get me out of the

> "The conspirators knew that the City National was practically impregnable from the outside. But Magina him as he sped away with his plunder. "Gone!" he cried, "and-the strong He saw that I was close upon him after a brisk run. He turned a curve One glance Marvel gave, then he in the alley. I heard a crash of glass. outside here staggered up the steps of "Quick, my man!" he shouted to the a deserted building. He had been

in a leisurely manner. your services, by mail, Mr. Marvel. "Which way?" demanded Marvel As to Forbes, and this Maginn-if he try. Holding up a print of the famous is caught-"

"By the way, our friend outside-

I lost sight of him before I had set he has been a friend indeed," said the tled the point that I might have been banker, and he extended a one hun-

I accompanied my friend outside. He had a weak spell from his excite. The tramp, little dreaming that he ment, and I had to ease him to a stone had brought to light something like a step while the watchman ran into the million in cold cash, stood rubbing his injured face and grumbling at fate.

We had about revived him when "I'd like to catch the man who he intended to tell his son was that it Marvel reappeared. He carried a yel- slugged me with that satchel!" he low satchel in his hand. He had a growled, "and disturbed me out of the Here was where my companion

"Finish your nap at the best hotel in

Lord Wolseley's Opinion of the Ameri- Might Be Well to Keep in Memory the can Soldier Is of Some Interest at This Time.

Field Marshal, the late Lord Wolwley, of the British army, had a good opinion of the American soldier.

It ought to be of interest to l'hiladelphians to learn that he received this opinion from the conduct of a Philadelphia volunteer regiment during the (livil war.

Wolseley rend of the way the Corn Exchange regiment, the One Hundred and Eighteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, withstood the fire at Shepherdstownwhen they were the merest rookies, for feet without removing his shoes. Anthey had had less than 15 days' training he exclaimed:

act in that manner the American sofdier is the equal of any soldier in

The regiment, which was greatly outnumbered, stood its ground, although the order to retreat had been given. It appears that the order falled to reach

They were shot to pieces, and had the additional discomfiture to find the Enfield rifles they were using were imperfect.

The American soldier can be de pended upon to give just as good an account of himself in France in 1917 as he did in Virginia in 1864.-"Glrard" in Philadelphia Ledger.

Success.

gentleman, creates hostility, hegets ill-"One night at Lady June's house is reddish. I recall dark doorway back from the curb. I stroll about the streets. Then as a The bank president looked up from he believed any man of even moder-Joseph Chamberlain said to me that the state prison, forty knew the sprint, I knew the supple bank man I became interested in look his writing as Marvel and myself are endowment could attain any given has a marble yard swing of the body. I caught the out- ing over the two institutions the place were ushered into the library of his aim which the set before him with unline of the face in a glint of the cor- supported. There was the Farmers & residence. He started slightly as remitting effort and enduring to the led, energetically and ner arc light, though well shadowed Drovers', a small concern, and the Marvel placed his hand over his face end. To my question, 'Why then, his by a broad peaked cap pulled down al- City National, the leading financial and those strong features of his un so many men fall short of their amoffered Senor Marco most to the raised collar of the crav- institution of the district. I looked in derwent a subtle change. Then as my bitions? he answered: 'They come to The first automobile was out of me no new inspiration or impetus, so the banker, a deep frown crossed his may have killed the dragon at the ight. He took out his sight, the second machine two blocks I planned to return home on the next brow. For only an instant he seemed first bridge and at the second, per-Exhibit three, those down the street by the time I could train. I found none city bound until swiftly to reflect. He gave the bit of haps even at the third, but the dragons

Method of Resuscitating a Victim.

How to treat a person who has received a severe electric shock is best described by quoting from the Scientific American the account of how one man did it to a workman who had touched a wire carrying a current of 2,300 volts and was apparently killed.

"A lineman immediately took hold I was told the other day that when of the ankles of the limp body, lifting it until the whole weight rested on the neck and letting it fall. He then took a pair of connectors and hammered the soles of the injured man's other lineman opened the man's mouth, pulled forward the swallowed tongue "If an American volunteer unit can | (which occurs in electric shock), and was about to begin the Schaefer prone method of resuscitation when the man returned to life. He was removed to the hospital and is now well, though suffering severely from burns,"

> Argument is one of the four bases of conversation. It is one of the best mental exercises. But in the bosom of the family, on unimportant matters, it is perhaps the most prolific breeder of ill-nature that the average family circle has to fear. Few persons can triumph in an argument without pride in the defeat of the opponent, who, in his humiliation, too often resorts to sarcasm to cover his defeat. Sarcasm.

Family Arguments

nature, and so the average family dis One is inclined sometimes to wonder if argument, except on matters of definite importance, should not be flowers that would bear no seeds exbarred from the family circle. Its restriction to a minimum would be sects. One of these is the rucca. good. Only those who can win without exultant triumph, only those who can lose with a smile and an admission of without which the yucen could not pe defeat should permit themselves to engage in it except when vital decisions are necessary. Peace, love, good fel-

a weapon unworthy of gentlelady or a

Everyone who visits

About the Syste

Pirat Sight of Great D

Even to One Who star fi

course, goes there knowing full that this is a land won from the that the Dutch have built them a try by raising dikes and pump water out of the inclosed lewland but the first actual sight of the dille system and of what it actually me to win a country from the sea co with as fresh an effect of surprise and amazement as though one had net heard the tale before. Holland today is a quiet little

checkerboard of a flat country, fertile, quiet and prosperous, dotted with thriving cities, gridironed with roads and canals. Old Holland, if we can believe what the historians tell us was one of the worst wildernesses in the world-a country of huge and angry lakes, of endless dismal swamps, of league on league of dense, impenetrable forest. Here and there a bit of that old forest has been preserved, as at The Hague, and the public look on it as an historical relic. Even in the time of King Philip II the country was such that that plous monarch called it the nearest thing to hell that was to be found on earth. Today it is preeminent for fertility, prosperity and peace. The change was wrought by one thing-dikes.

In the old school readers there was a standard tale of a noble little Dutch hoy who saved his province from disaster. He observed a tiny leak in one of the dikes and, thrusting his finger into it, he sat down and kept it plugged until help arrived, in spite of considerable discomfort from a cramp in the arm. This is a pretty tale, but one which first-hand observation of the dikes leads the visitor to regard with some skepticism. It reminds one of a small boy who would prop up the Washington monument if it began to fall. The enormous mass of the dikes is something hard to realize. There is one nine miles long that reaches down with solid granite 200 feet below the surface of the sea. In another province the dikes run for 300 miles. There is a single dike which was installed at such expense that it is said the great mass of stone could be duplicated in solid copper for the money it took to erect it. Holland is like a fortress eternally beleaguered by the sea and the price of her safety is eternal vigilance.

White Crossing the Delaware.

William F. White, attorney, of Muncie, Ind., a few years ago said, jestingly, while relating bed-time stories to his son, Bobby, then just starting to school, that he had crossed the Delaware with Washington on the famous boat tour of the general, says the Inwatchman. "Have you seen anybody asleep on the floor when the satchel dianapolis News. To make it realistic landed on him, and he was cut by the he told the boy where he stood in the "Two minutes before you came—the falling glass. I think that is all," con- boat beside the Father of His Coungentleman Mr. Morgan brought here, cluded Marvel, drawing on his gloves try. It was not long after that until Bobby's teacher was also telling "Except a substantial recognition of stories, but these were true ones, regarding the early history of the counpicture, "Washington Crossing the Del-"That is for you to decide," said aware," she asked the class, "And who of you can tell me what this picture

represents?" "It rippersents," said Bobby, standing up and inflating his small chest manfully: "It rippersents Washington rowing my papa across the Delaware." Since then White, among his sequaintances, has been known as the man who crossed the Delaware, this in spite of his lame explanation that what

Has Two "Mermaids."

was Delaware county he had cre

J. E. Smith, a Spaniard, residing in Hamilton, Ont., possesses two creatures that are probably unique. He considers them to be mermaids. Though these are described as "fabled" or "fictitious" creatures in the dictionaries, those of Mr. Smith have heads shaped like those of human beings and bodies that are distinctly fish-like. One is much larger than the other, and is considered to be the mother, and reckoned to be 300 years old. Both have fine hair like a human being, and a small mustache and heard. The head is attached to a human-like neck which merges into the fish-like body, and the arms are like those of a monkey, only that the fingers are webbed. It is said that the "mermaids" were found in the wreck of a ship in the Arabian sea.

The Regimental Dog.

The regimental dog has always been favored animal in the United States armies, whether regular or volunteer. Champ Clark, it will be recalled, by reviving a southwestern folk song, relating to the unwisdom and bad taste of "kicking' my houn' dog aroun'," aroused new interest in that partieular animal, and the Second regiment of Missouri adopted one as its "mascot." Since then the organization has been known as the "Houn' Dog Regiment." Recently a wealthy lady presented the men with a fine specimen of the species, a Great Dane, Maltese blue in color and weighing 210 pounds. It is unnecessary to say that few liberties will be taken with this "houn'." -Christian Science Monitor.

Honest Landlady, Boarder (on leaving)-Madam, you are one of the most honest persons I

have ever met. Landlady-I'm glad to hear you say

that, sir. Boarder-Yes: your honesty is conspicuous on the very front of your establishment. Your sign says, "Boarders Taken In!"

Flowers Owe Life to Insects.

In California are several sorts of cept for the visits and activities of intiny moth lives in the flower and performs a peculiar work, intric petuate itself through