CHAPTER X. The ladies were just sitting down to

supper when Robert Harbut burst upon them. "Dear me, Robert, how you startle

one," Miss Peyton said, as he suddenly opened the door and ran in. "Don't sit down, Miss Peyton; for goodness sake don't sit down, or I know

so would be fatal to me." "What is your news, Robert," Miss Leicester asked quickly, while Con-

stance looked anxiously at him. "My news is this-I have got a clue." An exclamation of surprise and plea-

sure broke from his hearers. "It was quite accidental," he went on; "but I have learnt by a most singular chance who the man was who accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Corbyn on the continent. I have not got his name, but that will be easy to discover, for I have learnt that he served as Mr. Corbyn's scout at Oxford; so I should say there will be no difficulty whatever in getting his name from the college books."

"But how did you find that out? Miss Peyton asked.

"By the extraordinary piece of lucl of coming across probably the only man who could give me the information, and Robert then repeated the story had heard.

"That is singular, indeed," Miss Peyton said when he had finished a "downright providential. Now we have only to find out the man's name, and then to find him."

of the scouts are natives of Oxford their fathers have been scouts before them, or in some way connected with do not find the man himself living there now, we may find some of his people and learn where he now is if alive. say if alive, Miss Corbyn, because you sanguine, as otherwise we might have a seyere disappointment."

"I am almost convinced that he is this strange way if he hadn't been alive. for standing so long.

The meal was a very cheerful one. spirits. Miss Peyton, although she had we are in search." forbidden any allusion to the subject, was evidently full of it. Constance, culties had not suggested themselves though the happiest of the party, was the most silent. She had lately herready, had there been anything to search for, to have devoted her life to the pursuit, but when there was no clue rigmarole entail buisness." to follow up, no clue however faint as way, she had felt absolutely powerless. Now, the very vague hope with which they had come down to Bath had been unexpectedly realized, and there was again something to work for, and a clue to be followed up. It might end in nothing, but at least it led somewhere red out, but had sat pretending to work for, and a cine red out, but had sat pretending to work for, and a cine red out, but had sat pretending to work for, and a cine red out, but had sat pretending to work for, and a cine red out, but had sat pretending to work for, and a cine red out, but had sat pretending to work for, and a cine red out, but had sat pretending to work for the cine of charge for five years, mailed postpaid to any address on receipt of the cine of charge for five years, mailed postpaid to any address on receipt of the cine of charge for five years, mailed postpaid to any address on receipt of the cine of charge for five years, mailed postpaid to any address on receipt of the cine of charge for five years, mailed postpaid to any address on receipt of the cine of charge for five years, mailed postpaid to any address on receipt of the cine of charge for five years, mailed postpaid to any address on receipt of the cine of for the present. It was like a track to "He might just as well have written," too well paid, that is what you are."

O traveller lost on a moor. It might might just as well have written, whise Peyton said over and over again. Well said I well paid or not if you Alaska.

Satisfaction Guaranteed or Money Refunded. any rate it was something to follow and gave ground for renewed hope and con

"Now, my dears, we can renew the subject," Miss Peyton said at last. think to begin with we ought to move a vote of thanks to Robert for having thus succeeded in discovering such an important point."

aunt," Hilda said; "we must not puff this morning."

to introduce the subject as often as he At any rate I am sure that he has been here is the under porter. Jim, just ocean channels, snow-capped peaks. word he might obtain a clue. This he Upon arriving at Oxford Robert Har- sir, we can sit down comfortable."

lady said, "we may consider my motion junior porter to his rooms. as carried."

"So far," Robert Harbut said, "it has "I am a member of the Inner Temple, Mr. Freeman, and have called to in him for, if I may de free to ask? It is gallant old lady who enlisted in 1848 been a matter of pure chance, but you quire if you will be kind enough to tell many years since I saw Tom; but we without her sex being recognized, must remember that the most practis. me the name of the scout who attended were pretty thick together when he after serving in the Jagers (rifles) ed detective cannot invent a clue, he upon Mr. Corbyn and Mr. Rothsay, who was here, and I do not want to do him a Hussar regiment was for her bravery must wait until one presents itself, and had. I believe, rooms on the same stair- a bad turn." then it is his buisness to carry it out. case about twenty-two years ago. He "I have nothing against him what- ed, she married a major in her own In this case the first operations are should be able to give some very im- ever," Robert said. "We believe that regiment, and after his death another simple and obvious. I shall to-morrow portant evidence on a case in which I he can give some information that no lieutenant of cavalry. Her name was morning take the train to Didcot and am engaged. I do not know whether one else can give about an event that Marie Hoche. then to Oxford. I shall find out the the information would be in the college took place nineteen years ago, and as it name of the man who attended Mr. books, but, if so, I shall be extremely and Mrs. Corbyn on their travels, and, obliged if you would give it to me. Of a good sum for the information. So if possible, discover whether his family course if you cannot do so, I must en- you see it will be doing a good turn by a sick shild suffering and errors live at or near Oxford, and if so shall deaver to obtain it from some of the rather than a bad one to Morson." then learn from them if the man is servants who were at the college at the "Oh, if that's it, I will tell you all I Teething. It will relieve the alive, and if so where he is living. If time. If not here now, doubtless some know, air; but that is little enough. I mediately. Depend upon it, methers, to he is dead and has left a widow, it may of them are alive and may not improly have told her the story, and from "I should think I could give you the seventeen or eighteen years I have the tasts and is the prescription of one of the her we may learn something that will information you require," the bursar heard nothing of him. His people live, States, and is for sale by all drawler. help us materially. For example, if he said, "it will be very easy to find the as I told you, at Woodstock. He was the world. Price twenty-five in had told her that he was present at the staircase, as there is of course a yearly a sharp boy and fond of horses, and he ceremony at the church at Folkestone, that would strengthen our case greatly, calendar will give us the precise year stable to a nobleman in France, and ABREY & TYRRELL for the really weak point is that we are when each gentleman took his degree. when Tom was fifteen years old he not in a position to prove this marriage I suppose it was in their last year of went out to be with him. He was out LAND SURVEYORS. took place there, and that the missing residence?"

leaf in the register contained this max: "A should fancy so," Robert said. think it did him much good, except he riage. I do not say that the court "The fact of both of them being on one got to talk French. Then he got later

lawfully married."

way a single point unless she was forced then as to the scout."

quite insuperable. Neither of the prin- that staircase." selves, the estate is entailed on the years later, I think," er, the consent of the next heir whoever | wages' books."

Miss Peyton said sharply.

Clitheroe might agree to treat Miss some further search. take it that she has no intention of re- Morson."

inclined to give an undertaking that porter's lodge. the college, so we may hope that if we she would abstain altogether from visit- "I want to have half-an-hour's chat "Well, sir, he was always at unsettled ing this part of England. place some eighteen or nineteen years might acquiesce in the surrender of her sovereign into the man's hand. ago the man may not be alive now, and own rights, but she could not bind her "All right, sir, I will answer any That made him worse than before, and Fine

by him, which would, in fact, have no some twenty years ago." And now let us change the subject and legal value, and would be merely an "You don't mean Thomas Morson?" did come back and saw his people at have supper. I am afraid that we will expression of his opinion. Still, that is the porter asked. to me that a compromise might be you guess that?"

Miss Peyton was silent. These diffi-

self begun to give up hope. She was she said abruptly at last. "The great the gateway and he said, 'Porter, I know exactly why, except that he The Frank S. Taggart & Co. point is to find the evidence; if we want to have a few words with you was nt, so to speak, of their sort." cannot do that we will talk over this about a man named Morson who was a

by an early train. Late in the after. know about him you had better go and granted a year's leave of absence from noon Miss Peyton received a telegram see his people and ask them—they live duty in order to recuperate his health. ARE RELIABLE AND until chance threw something in her from him-"Successful to a certain ex- at Woodstock, and can tell you as much tent; don't expect me till to morrow; as they like. I don't know what you will be established at the head of Went-I am making inquiries."

following afternoon that Robert Har. He seemed a good deal a taken back. but returned. The ladies had not stir. However, he put on a bold air and said, for the present. It was like a track to nothing else than Robert's expedition. ed to know. You people down here are United States and Canada via the abruptly at a deserted sheepfold, it might end might lead to shelter and rescue, at any rate it was something to follow and sheepfold, it and told us what he had done. Men do not step outside them gates sharp I will chuck you out, and so off he went builed trains of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Album of Watches Clocks Discovery Course of the Northern Pacific Alb

> busy, Miss Peyton," Constance suggest. fellow hadn't been here before, I sup- Chicago, St. Paul and Minneapolis to ed, while Hilds pointed out "that in all pose?"
>
> | Probability he has written, the letter | "I do not think so. The under porter from St. Paul and Minneapolis to Yel-"
>
> | Wontana and the Pacific coast, without change, and special Pullman sleepers from St. Paul and Minneapolis to Yel-"
>
> | Some of the post will have gone up to London first, and was here at the time, and I asked him lowstone Park.

has effected beyond our hopes, and I but had driven straight to St. Boniface. He led Robert into the lodge. "Now, He found that the bursar was in the sir, what do you want to know about Paul, Minn., for copies of the hand- BUGGIES. "Then as we are two to one." that college, and was conducted by the Tom Morson?"

prodigiously and might perhaps enable perhaps twice, but it is not likely that his uncle's en us to make a satisfactory compro- they were both twice on the same stair- over Europe for a couple of year

now, they might admit that if it would mediately over those of Mr. Rothsay." a college servant about four years, and ness

ready explained to Miss Corbyn, the work." "Yes, here it is. In that year He used to do very well, for he often I shall be obliged to keep my news un. difficulty in effecting anything in the Thomas Morson was the scout who at. went away in the long vacation as a of the scalp and spine, w

years old, or, failing sons, a daughter exactly when he left if it is of any im- never appeared in the list. I think it sealed. Heart disease, the symptoms of that age, or failing children altogeth- portance to you by turning to the got to the head porter's ears, and Tom of which are faint spells,

> "Thank you, I do not see at present after that." ful and what may not."

but one not of a legal nature. Thus Mr. vacation," Mr. Freeman said after "Yes, he did," the porter said, with-

more difficult than the first," Robert did not succeed to the estate. But I servants who were here with this man, be glad to have him."

with you," he said. "I want some in- sort of a chap, and was saying that the "Such an understanding as this formation that Mr. Freeman says you life did not suit him, and that he should would give her the moral satisfaction can probably furnish me with, and of not stop out the year. He got married that she desires. In other respects course I am ready to pay you for the here two years before he left, and I know we have agreed that as this took matters would remain as they are. She trouble of giving it," and he slipped a daresay that would have settled him.

it is as well not to start by being too heir, who, either he or herself, or by question I can if it is in my way and he took to drinking a bit, and fell in their trustees, or, if a female, by her ain't going to do harm to any members with rather a bad lot, and he got into husband, could take up the case at the of the college. If it is I say frankly two or three scrapes, and I fancy he Fancy Oak Rockers, point at which you lay it down. In the that you won't get anything out of me." saw that it could not last much longer, alive" Miss Peyton said; "I don't think same way Philip Clitheroe's heir might "No; my inquiries concern a man so he jumped at Mr. Corbyn's offer. you would ever have heard of him in repudiate this acknowledgment made who was a scout here once, who left never saw him after that, but I know

find Mr. Allan's dishes none the better the line upon which, if at all, it seems "Yes, I do; but how in the world did away out to Australia; anyhow, I have

effected in the event, of course, of fail. "Well, sir, there was another party got on well wherever he is, if he shook Robert Harbut and Hilda were in high ing to find the legal evidence of which asking questions about Tom some three off that trick of drinking he was falling

months back." "You don't say so."

he was rather a seedy-looking chap, enough, but he was'nt altogether liked "Well, we need not discuss it now," with a shiny hat. I was standing at among the college servants. I do not college servant hereabouts twenty years Robert Harbut left the next morning ago.' 'Well,' I said, 'if you want to want to know for, and I don't care, so worth street, on Hamilton mountain. It was not until three o'clock on the there is the long and the short of it.'

"Mest likely he was a great deal too "That is very curious, porter, the luxurious Pullman sleeping cars from

we should not get it until twelve or one and he said he had never set eyes on The senery en route is the most him before, and as one of us is always magnificent to be found in the seven CARRIAGE & BLACKSMITH "It might, or it might not, my dear. at the gate we should have seen him if Beautiful mountains, rivers, valleys, Probably it would be put in the West he had been here. He looked just the lakes and plains follow each other i "But it was accident, pure accident, County bags and we should have got it sort of chap as would come to serve a succession to delight the tourist, who him up by premature praise, it will be quite time to do that when he has did not write because he has not comband something out of the discovery."

writ, and you may be sure we snouldn't have let him inside the college till we knew what he was up to. Oh, and he ment of the great Northwest. made something out of the discovery." pleted his business. He may have had said something about his belonging to The crowning glory of the trip "I don't think that is fair," Constance to go some distance to find this man or a detective office, and gave me a card. through the Northwest, however, is the said, "Mr. Harbut has exactly carried his family, and he would naturally I've got it somewhere and can show it hot springs, gavers and gargeons out Miss Peyton's instructions, he was rather tell us the whole story at once. you if you are interested in it. But canons, and to Alaska with its endless

mind the gate for half an hour. Now, Indian villages and giant glaciers. somely illustrated "Wonderland" book,

"Well, I want to find him."

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in the field promoted to first lieutenant.

Civil and Mains Business would accept the cythence, but it statement will probably decide that on as a cortof assistant courier to some congilien our moral position. Rock of them may have moved once, then Registermen who was a friend of

that woman Clitheroe would not give question then about the year. Now ite with the undergraduates. He was

til you have finished supper, and to do form of a comprise is almost if not tended upon the six sets of rooms on courier. He was a sharp fellow, Tom mucles, desire to sleep, failure to be cipals can do more than bind them. "He lett the college two or three too sharp. Not anything that wasn't of hearing, lo honest, you know, sir, but I don't think eves surrounded with LEADEN CIRC direct heir-male or female-and an "Did he, we shall soon see that. He his ideas were like those of the rest of oily looking skin. etc.. are all . ympto. entail can only be broken by the exist. was here at the beginning of the next us. I know his cousin would never of nervous debility that lead to i ing holder with the consent of his next year and of the year after that, for he trust him here at the gate after it was and death if not cured. The spring heir. Either Mr. Clitheroe or Miss was in charge of the same set of rooms. closed. He did at first, but it got said function waves in consequence. Corbyn is the owner of the estates, and Yes, you are right," he went on turning that there was a golden key to the gate who through abuse they have commit neither of them can break the entail over another page, "his name is not in of St. Boniface, and that there was in ignorance may be permanently cured. until they have a son of twenty-one the next year's list. I can find out many a one passed in here whose name Send your address for book on all dis-

> "But you yourself said there might that it is of any consequence, but there "Do you happen to remember be some sort of a compromise, Robert," is never any saying what may be use- whether, among the gentlemen Mor- beat duicker than the first, pain about son went on tour with, he went with the breast bone, etc., can positively "Yes there might be a compromise, "He left at the beginning of the long Mr. Corbyn?"

out hesitation, "I remember Mr. Cor-Corbyn as his cousin, and to acknow. "I am very much obliged to you, Mr. byn well, but why I remember parti. ledge the relationship, and even to put Freeman, for the trouble you have cularly about Morson going with him on paper the acknowledgement of his taken. The further particulars I wish was because when he left he told me absolute conviction that a marriage to find out I shall no doubt be able to he was going away with Mr. Corbyn took place between her parents. I learn from servants who were here for a long trip this time; he had been grant that this would place him in a singular position, and if Miss Corbyn into tended to settle down here in Bath, it to tended to settle down here in Ba would be an almost impossible position, time. The college porter has been had written to him saying that he was man. Send for terms. "The second part of the affair will be for naturally everyone would ask how, here over thirty years, and he will be going to travel for a year or so, and if if she were Mr. Corbyn's daughter, she able to give you a list of the other he would like to go with him he would

> "It was curious Morson's throwing siding here, and might even be not dis. Robert Harbut then went back to up his berth here for a year's engage.

ment," Robert said. but his wife died a year afterwards. about a couple of years later that he Woodstock. I heard that he went never seen him since. I expect he has into. There was no doubt he was a shrewd fellow and a deep one. I al. "Yes, he came in here one morning; ways liked him and found him straight

(To be continued.)

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