BY DAVID CHRISTIE MURRAY.

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CHAPTER XII.

George had not long to wait for an opportunity to vindicate himself. The petty sessions were held the morning after his arrest.

thoush a man be blessed with that approving conscience which is popularly and mia takably supposed to make bim quite easy in accept the story? How should she accept it, It is easy to be virtuously indig but like the loyal and true hearted maid she nant about a scoundrel and his doings, but was, with passionate faith in her lover, and harder, much harder, to understand him, to see things from his point of view, to com- | ser! It never entered into her heart for a prehend his self-justifications, his excuses To my mind, a scoundrel is much to be pitied Guilty? He-her lover? The policeman for being a scoundrel. His detection and who arrested him, the magistrate who com-punishment are good things for him, and we who are virtuous may claim for his soul's listened were suuk beneath the lowest reach good to see that the knots of the whip of contemptyous indignation, not to know are drawn tight, and that a strong not to see at a glance, that he was and must arm lays it on. But we are not with be innocent. out compassion as he writhes. It is And so, not merely thinking him guiltless, hard measure. Could be have exercised an but feeling as persuaded of his honor as if unbiassed judgment to begin with, he would she herself had held it in her keeping, she have chosen another lot than probably

But our young criminal was not yet converted to the ways of wisdom. The rat who though she was as ignorant of legal matters has made predatory excursions after your salad oil is not converted when the avenging that nobody should have spoken for him. terrier gets him into a corner. He squeals and bites if he can, and dies with the ratpulses of him beating to the tune of despair ing vengeance. George was very angry. He ently on affording him as little chance as anathematised Bushell and Curtise and the spirit merchant whose half chance call had nocence. The man of pusiness who had so depleted the cash box. Why did nobody come near him? Why was not his father here to offer bail until the morrow, and to was afflicted with, lived thirty miles away, show a little of that fatherly faith which, even and she knew no other lawyer. if misplaced, was surely due to one whose guilt had not yet been proved? If they could not prove what he had done with the money he tried to persuade himself that he might yet have a squeak for liberty. It was only Bushell's word against his, and he would question of money. She had heard it said em face it out. In hours of extremity you see phatically that lawers above all men, desafety in any foolish trifle. There was no manded that their services should be paid reason why Curtice should talk, and if he for. That was Uncle Borge's verdict, and held his tongue it was a point in the prison er's favor. Ethel's silence, of course, was acter - and had experience. certain. Not even feminine spite at being anew how to love, and he could not think as took the bundle of notes from their hiding ill of her as he did of everybody else. If his best place, and slipped them into her bosom, conceptions of her were shameful to her -and dressed and set out upon her walk. they were—he gave her his best, and it was love that created them. Ethel would be staunch to him, and would not betray him. was a good pedestrian, as a farmer's daughter If he were found guilty, she might send the should be, and the four miles were not much

money back secretly to George Bushell, but to her, animated by such a purpose as she until then she would hold it for him, and bore. keep a still tongue. He did not upbraid himself for being a villain and a fool, but he upbraided circumstance for the hard measure dealt out to him. Only to have quietly bor-rowed three hundred pounds, with the most upright intentions, and to lose Ethel, the ing him. But Ethel approached him with res of Quarrymoor, home, good name, the Saracen, Daniel's quiet but substantial earn ings — the punishment and the offense seemed unequal.

There was a wise man in the East whose constant prayer it was that he might see to day with the eyes of to-morrow. The inspector lent the prisoner brushes and

other necessaries in the morning, and even asked. gave him a clean shirt, taking George's in Mr. Keen. return. There was no news from the Saracen, and the prisoner dared not send there, cen, and the privoter dated how sold "way. believing his father's silence due to Dinah's way. betravel of the truth in that unfortunate "I need not trouble, you," said the girl affair of the cash box; or, at least, having with a sort of sad graciousness. fear enough of the the betrayal to keep "Trouble !" said Mr. Bowker, wit, great him from making even the slightest appeal gallautry. "It's no trouble to do a turn for

How long the night had seemed, and how olease. slowly the shackled feet of the minutes craw-along in the morning ! I have talked

· Englishman who was led out one Mr. Packmore, an elderly conveyancer, who wing during the Carlist War to be had no more to do with criminal legalities

been dug for him, when the del had no more to do with emininar legalities that have. But be was able to tell ber that the Local tart in Local tart at liberty. He told of the prisoner; and so fate seemed to push the intervent of besen tarts for the seemed to push when the intervent of the truth ware a best coile defined and now led one of absolute physical emptiness, Mr. Bowker had waited out de and now led the interior of his trunk were a her back again, declining her proffered gracientific vacuum. We was a brave man too, fuity. and had distinguished himself under fire pretty often. There was something of that unpleasant sensation in the criminal's inter ior when at last a hand was laid upon him man feel ashaamed of himsen. and he was told to rise and mount a set of corkserew steps which led him from the with a little blush. waiting chamber of justice into the hall it-The hall of justice was small and

JOSEPH'S COAT, had sternly forbid len her, and had in leed duven her to her room and locked her there with unwonted imprecations. I do not believe that there is any crimin

> that it is sure to bear. Even public gossip, which is irreverent

enough, and even private spite, which is upon at his long hair with both hands. ceasion cruel, snare something, and Ethel heard no word of the dreadful tidings of her with a final wrench at his hair, A prison couch is rarely luxurious, even lover's wickedness. But the daily newspaper nimself bodily into the seat he had just quitted, and glared at her like one distraught. "What is it, Mr. Keen?" spares nobody, and in its columns she read the tale. And how, will you ask, did she her voice. " Miss Donne," protested the young law

yer earnestly, "my heart bleeds for you ! ' fraction of a second to believe him guilty. ain you terribly to know." "Tell me," she said steadfastly, seeing

that he faltered.

he threw

A Jane?

guilt. The villain i he huittered, kinding of butter give since less backday of backday o turned about to see in what way she could be except for one spot on either cheek, and her done pretty smart a'ready, an' it's the fust ner of service to him. She was quick to see and tine nostrils were a little dilated, but her eyes time, an' it'll be the last-mind what I'm aunderstand anything set before her, and glittered with a light which under some cir- tellin' you "

cumstances would have looked dangerous. as most women are, it seemed strange to her "I would as soon ba shot as do it," said the miserable John : " but it has to be done. Surely he should have had a lawyer to defend These are the circumstances.-Mr. Bushell him, but the stupidities had only arrested him the day before, and were bent apparcharges the prisoner with forgery. The pri-soner answers that he received the check possible for the proof of his transparent infrom Mr. Bushell, asshed it for him at the bank, and paid the money into his hands. made her father's will, and who still man-The people at the bank keep a register of the number of all notes paid out and received; they supply the police with aged such small legal concerns as Mrs. Donne and she knew no other lawyer. Yes there a copy of that register in this particu was Mr. Keen, but she did not think well of lar case, and of course it becomes the duty of the police to traje the notes and see whose Mr. Keen's spiritual prospects, and she had hands they pass through. Now, here"-he begged George to cease to associate with him. There were other lawyers to be had, and she nanded her a slip of paper from a pigeon hole could easily find them. But then came the question of money. She had heard it said em manager's memorandum. Look at the notes yourself, Miss Donne-I hate myself for telling you !-- and you will see that you have had put into your innocent hands a portion of the forger's gains. And now the murder's Uncle Borge was of a decidedly litigious charer ite diet. out l"

The murder was out indeed. In the face There was the money George had given disgraced could make her false to him. The her. For such a purpose as she had in mind of such evidence, faith was useless. There poor wretch did love her, after all, as well ashe it was surely righteous to use that. She was no crevice, in the certainty which pris oned her, through which the loyalest doub of love could struggle. Love's dream was over, and love's gilded idol lay shattered at The The amazed contempt and scorn aer feet. with which she had read the story of the accusation of her lover, the loyally with which At the edge of the town she encountered

an undersized coaly man in very heavy and pers of the universe, whilst she knew him dirty flannel. Any lady strange to the disjeers of the universe, whilst she knew him to be true. For she had not merely thought im honset holicand him becaute have aum honest, believed him honest-she knew him to be honest, as only love knows love ; and after all, his truth was a lie, and the gift out any thought of his appearance. tears could cleanse her.

to be done with the knowledge John Keen great a tragedy as ever a woman's heart play-to make her, she dare answer him no fur ed a part in. Curtice got up and told his ther. George Bushell led the way, and the as it happened, and volunteered to show the

fawning ine tate the tota him such tears of "Wby, wh heartbreak. John Keen, to the general surprise, had thrown up the case for; he defense out sat there in court with s : . . / hard face, and never once looked from it e prisoper's

loathing in it might have disconcerted even an honorable man. Ethel, gently handled by the magistrate, old ner story. What it cost to tell it can "You said come along of me," the house an honorable man.

"You said come along of me," the house never be known. Dinah neard it, and began to hate her child. "Have you any question to ask this wit-ness, prisoner?" Thus said Sir Sydney "I am very much obliged to vou," she said.

held out the notes at arm's length. "Do you the usual way, until a little incident led to de ris of the corner and joined the woman you these !" "Yes," she answered boildy, though before.

tell me, Miss Donne, that George Banks gave a big one, and he began again to be terribly ou side. you these !" " 'You on a bound hold with the book and he began again to be terribly "Yo don't r'aly want me to fetch a pleece-

man, do you?" she asked. "Yis, I do," said George; but no man is ally minded cur alive who would not deny amazed. He let them fall to the table, his himself his crime, if he could see the brood arm dropped heavily to his side, and he fell brought him every week a list of the house insensible to the feelings of other prople, and and notopped heaving to his side, and he ten fising on a sudden, he paced the room, and pulled at his long hair with both hands. At

this she regarded him with increased almost entire care of his vast business coner tone; "the pleeceman'll be here in a her secret in open c urt. For I have not the wonder, following him with her eyes until, cerns to the scoundrel who had at last forged minute.

bis name. She brought in the list now a lumber 100m. The criminal was in a conher like down to consider it, arrived at the conclusion dution of abject terror, buo hooing on the floor. Her employer, disiegarding her, passthat cheese, candles, tes, coffee, butter, and the distraught. without a tone of contempt in other articles of household use were going ed once more to the wardrobe. "Is there enythin' else you've hid here,

faster than they should do. He was in a more than commonly grudging hum or, and there was a sum of two hundred pounds to be made up somehow by squeezing some-She faced him bravely, without a word, wait ing for him. "I must tell you what it will o' mine ? " The garment he had in his hand was none of his, as the glance of a moment keeper. "Look here," he said, when she reap told him. It was old and mildewed, and al

peared in answer to his summons; "I'm a-being robbed right an' left, I am. I shan't the shale and dronning it again most rotten in places, and it felt moist in his notes from the table and dropping it again, "was all that was wanted finally to prove his vuilt. The villain !" he muttered, grinding tis teeth and starting to his feet again. "Explain yourself," she answered stead fast still. All color hed from from her form

gotton. George had heard the man-ner of his sister-in-law's death. and had been told of her last word. It was Joseph's coat. He held the coat in his hand, and knew it

" I'm sure, sir." said Mrs. Bullus in some wrath, "as nobody's got cause to say a word almost at a glance. He walked into his against me on that count. I've been a own room with it, threw it into a chair, and onest woman all my days, an' if you're stood staring at it for a full minute. There sayin' anythin' again' me, you'll have to prove your words. For, what though I am were few men less likely to be affected by the sight of any worthless relic such as this, but possibly it hit him as it did because it was poor, ain't sperifless to endure it.' such a trifle, and because he had found it after such a lapse of years. A greater George was getting to be querulous as he prew old. and that matter of the forgery had thing arising sooner might have passed him set his temper's teeth on edge so thoroughly that small things jarr 1 him.

by. "It's made me feel moist all o'er," "D'ye call this sere item right?" he asked, almost fierce". "Eight and sixpence Raid he, rubbing the palm of the hand in which he for tea an' coffee in a week for three people had carried it against his own coat, to get rid an' one on 'em just fetched new out of the of the feel of the discovered garment. workus.' dear !" And he stared at the coat, and went Mr. Bushells maid of all work was but off into reverie. "I reckon," he said after a time, "as he's been dead these 'enrs and

Bastille, as they called the workhouse in 'ears. It feels as if he had been." He seemed reluctant to touch the coat those parts, and was therefore naturally sup again, for he put his hand out towards it nosed to be able to content herself on a mou

once or twice, and drew it back. But laying "Well, it does seem a large sum, sir," the hold of it at last, he took a step to the door as if intending to return it to the place from housekeeper admitted. "Wuy, it couldn't ha' come about at all." which he had taken it, but as he did a he stopped short, dropped the garment cried the old man. "onless I was a bein" obbed again. Where's that little nussey of noon the table, and felt a part of it with his h ind.' Fetch her here. I'll get at the bot

" Theer's somethin' i' the linin'," he said om o' this one way or another." "Jane's gone up to Mrs Bunch's to borrer slowly. "A bit o' paper o' some sort." The lining was so old and rotten that a strainer. There ain't a si' fit to use in the sort.' wall house, an' that's as true as I'm a standhe tore it open easily with his fingers, and sne would have clung to him against all the evidence the wide world could bring an' the Lord A'mighty knows it."

No change in face or attitude gave notice of blow which fell upon her. She would have warfare to carry the fighting into the enemy's It was Mrs. Builus' favorite method of the shock it brought him to read the little document he held. Yet it was nothing less country in this wise whenever she and her than a copy of the certificate of marriage between Joseph Bushell, bachelor, and Dinah Banks, spinster.

savagely. "An, when that little trollop comes in again -Here, niver mind waitin' for savagely. Then, Dinah's story of the marriage had not been a lie, after all ! Errant Joe had left rightful heir behind him ! The first conscious and distinct feeling he

anything theer as don't belong to her, I'l had was of relief that this discovery had not send her to Stafford jail as sure as I'm alive been made before George had proved himself unworthy. It is always pleasanter to escape from being a scoundrel than to be one, and "Fie for shame, master, ' said Mrs Bullus I wouldn't be that suspectus like, not to now old George was armed in honesty for two years at least. For two years he could he honest and yet hold the money. Any question of becoming dishonest and still

iolding the money inight reasonably be de ferred until the time came. For two years he could be honest and yet old the money. And yet he began to which appeared to presage a jest of some oubt that postulate. The money had never sort, followed. The old man walked to the belonged to young George as yet, but it undoubtedly did belong now, and had be longed ever since old Joe's death, to Durch young Joe's wedded wife. Well, there was some comfort there. She had voluntarily

resigned it all this time, and had, indeed, when she sued for mercy for her son, ex "Why, what's this ?" he called to the pressly disowned all desire to claim it. "Her don't want it," mused old George. "This is the room Jane slep' in up till "Said so with her own lips. It don't belong

last Wednesday was a week." the woman to him not till her's dead, an' if it belonged to him not till her's dead, an' if it belonged to him now he's a felon." He could argue well on the side of justice, for he went onand never once looked from it e prisoner's have very was a week, the workal eyes. This persistent regard drew a shifty it's been a rainin so, and the roof's that bad. glance now and again from George, but John's aspect never changed. The angry room." "An' if he signed his own name, he didn t "Why ceuldn's you ha' told me that afore." know it, an' it was a felonious' intention. I've heard that on the bench many a time. What's

to be looked at is the intention. It never was ' my mind for a minute to swindle anybody. I gave a hundred pound to my young nevew Joseph as I've never seen again from that

day to this. If he'd ha' come again, an' ha' took everythin' could I he' said to him

CHAPTER XIV. shire property, of course. He car

If Mr. George Banks had known every- spenda thousand or two on high farm thing, he might have held himself from that wants to.' disgusted cry against the treason of his sweetheart. It was that cry which sealed his mother's lips and kept the simple case of for. "I know there is," the lawyer " An' you think there's coal unde gery from hecoming in its way a cause celebre as well as if I'd been there. It is somewhat curious to reflect on what year or two, Mrs. Donne, and would have happened had Dinah declared fortune in it."

This was news indeed, and slightest doubt that if George had heard the really an heires. It was sur story, he would have struck out for this new how poor young George was buff ark of refuge, and would have sworn through wings of the unattainable. He has thick and thin that he had been aware of his own identity all along. I was telling Georges had already fallen.

story over a pipe to a distinguished novelist, It was four o'clock on the afternoon of a friend of mine, last Saturday at a trial, and he was under the hands of a ba ittle convivial gathering, and the distinguish who wore a belt and carried a bunch of k ed novelist — who is also a barrister — was a ut it. Another man, who also wore a t little puzzled at first sight to say what might with a bunch of keys at it, stood by the " What's the news ?" asked the barber, have become of the prisoner had this revelation been made. He seemed firmly of opin George's well groomed locks fell beneath lain upon old George, and that he would have shears. "Well," said the other ; " the news is

have found it very difficult indeed to prove one thing, as you owe me two and a tanne "Oh." said the barber warder, suspend that his grand nephew had not known the tuth. In any case, it would have altered the action of the shears, "and what mi the face of thugs. If my opinion is of any that be for ?"

bo

"I see a telegram message half an ho value on a point which is not altogether echnical, I venture to offer it. Young ago," said the idle warder. " Erebus is George would still have be committed to take first, my boy." his trial at the assizes. Old George would "Well, I m blowed !" responded the h

have been bound over to annear against him. ber, pausing to look at his companion befo Bail would have been found for the criminal, he fell to work again. "I'd ha' bet my sh again' him " a compromise about the fortune would have been arrived at, the old man would have for

"Well, he's won, whatever you'd bet," said the idle warden with a little lau You'll see it for yourself in the morning feited his recognisances, and the younger scoundrel would have been shipped abroad somewhere with at least an ample supply of papers."

And all this would have come to a man right had a felon to anything? And y Now, this was cruel for George. who had already consented to be a cur, if he he had fairly won the money bad only refrained from going still lower in would have saved him, and his creation's scale, and growing downwards into culations had been sound after all, the similitude of a snake. for that one abominable accident which

the similitude of a snake. But when he cried out that Ethel also for that one abominable accident which he was in the lie against him, even his mother who had loved him so wiped him clean out of her heart, and left him to his the found him impenitent and stubborn. fate. It was hard to do, but it was yet more hard to have to doit. For she loved accident, adopted a wiser method, and him yet, her son-scamp and hound as he sumed a virtue though he had it not, in eq sideration of the chaplain's influence. had proved-still, still he was bone of her Of course, neither Mrs. Donne nor Ethel bone and flesh of her flesh, and he was Joe's were at this time much in the mood to enjoy son, and she had borne him and had gone in travail for him. There is but one divine an accession of fortune, immediate or remote. They were driven from home by shame, and being in the world, and it is motherhood and the motherly nature, for they are one. had little care to think about monetary prop-So he went on his way, cur-like enough, perities. Oid Daniel was driven away alse; and left hearts behind him to bleed and and four people who seemed rooted to the perities. Old Daniel was driven away also ; soil they were born on, went away together uffer after the manner of his tribe

Ethel, you will remember, fell into Dinah's and took one and the same goal. Trouble arms at that cruel charge her lover brought had brought Dinah and E hel close together, and had made them fast friends. against her. But she heard the words, and they came to mind again afterwaria. " The TO BE CONTINUED. child I bore !" groaned poor Dinah as she rese, and Ethel's mind, too staggered and

AN UNDERTAKER'S SPREH.

Personal Reminisc-nces of the Difference Between Work and Play. "That is my card, Judge. Y in will see that I am a man of good standing in the community." It read :

" Ezekiel Spy - Undertaker."

Judge Walsh put the card in his pocket future reference, and then contemplated His cheeks were red with the bloom of h the checks were red with the blob of her is there was a merry twinkle in his little bro-eys and a smile on his face that seemed to eys and a smile on the last de-tell of a disposition cheerful to the last devest and a diamond ring sparkled on

"I'm glad to meet you," said the cour perfectly satisfied with the result of its of servation : " How do you find business, Mr

up the corner of his left eye, "you can hard ly say its blooming. This is a healthy place and that you know. Judge, is had for bush

our cards among those who came and and we'd be sure to have some dozen call a day or two-twenty and sometimes for

" My name is Spry." was the respon " but I'm a regular Uriah Heep when business, and I tell you, Judge, I have a vet foot when I go into the house of mo ing. The court peeped over the bench and

ticed the prisoner's No. 11 shoes, while M Sprg continued .

about being rich in spirit, although poor in purse, when a little fat woman whom I had

never seen before, called me to one side and said : "Take it; take it, and may the Lord

bring you more. I've owed it to your wife

for these ten years." It was \$30, Judge, which the old lady felt bound to tip up, under the inspiration of the funeral sermon."

the inspiration of the funeral eermon." "That is interesting," asserted the to "Truly you must have had some remark he experiences."

to tell the crowd to take the last fond look

To trust is to bust, To bust is to trust No trust, no bust,

hen a shrivelled up little man, with a muf-

" On another occasion, Judge, I was about

tunned to heed them at the time, recalled them later on. Dinah was middle aged, and had suffered a great deal already. She did not faint, having still somebody left to endure for, but she put Ethel in a four-wheeled hackney them later on. coach and saw her home. For Mrs. Doone had been so enraged at the whole thing that she refused to accompany her daughter on that terrible journey, or to have any part or lot in the matter. It is the way of women to

show this curious injustice sometimes, by way of set-off to the amazing injustice which they often do themselves. The mother did not, as you may fancy, offer a very friendly welcome to the sister of the man who so shamefully wrecked her household peace, and had left the first blot upon the

house she had ever heard of amongst all its nomely legends. To have had stolen money in the house and in her daughter's hands ! You may easily believe it to have been very

bitter to the yeoman's widow, who was hon est, as all her forbears had been, to the backbone. "We brought shame an' sorrow to this house," said Dinah sadly, when Ethel was put to bed and she was ready to go away

gain. "But you won't forbid me to come and see her to morrow will you?" There was something in Dinah's face which repressed the tart answer on Mrs. Danne's tongue.

"You're i' trouble as much as we be, m dear." she answered -" worse trouble than we be - an' I'm sorry for you i'my heart. Come, an' welcome '

At this Dinah broke into tears, the first she had shed that heavy day.

"The shame ain't yourn, my poor dear creetur," said the yeomon's widow, more than it's ourn. But I doubt me an' my poor gell 'll be able to live here longer. An

I did hope to lay my hones i' Quarrymoor churchyard along of ourn's." ' Ourn'-'' ours "-hers-was the last John Andley Donne, the latest of a long and hororable race; and she also must needs weep a little to think that she and They think he should an undertaker at leisure. They think he should be always funereal in he might lie wide apart. "Oh," said Dinah, "if you go away, let me come wi' you! No," she said a mo his aspect and demeanor. Now, at the party last night I want through the waltz with the utmost grace, and was the life of a gay an pleasant company. This aft-parden, thi ment later, through her tears, "I should keep your trouble an'your shame i' your afternoon-I am to manage a little job on the minds, an' I'm best away. But if you'll let me, I'll look in to-morrow, an' see how she Hill, and I venture to say that by my solema appearance and grave bearing, I will be taken for one of the most deeply afflicted o is, poor thing."

little finger.

Spry ?

Well," replied the prisoner, as he twister

ness. Why, when I was down in Jacksonvil we used to stand on the pier and distri

a week, Judge." "But you appear to be prospering

"Nover say die," chuckled the prospering, "Never say die," chuckled the prison and then he quickly added: "No, Judge longos injects; i mean nover unpart: "Your name is hardly consistent with.

" not

experiences."

and after all, his truth was a lie, and the gift of his love a shame from which no years or tars could clearse her I will not try beyond this to tell you how be suffered. Come along " It was decided, before that terrible interview closed, that there was but one thing to be done with the knowledge John Keen had acquired -to submit it to the authori ties And so on W-dnesday the sight sears at the police court beheld the outside of as treat a tragedy as ever a woman's beat the police das long service had seemed by that, privileged as long service had seemed

tale and the prisoner, pallid and desperate, woman, with an expression of countenance gave him the lie. Then Ethel Donne appeared in the witness

box, and the coward's heart stood still. Dinah was in the court, resolved to tell her story to the magistrate. For Daniel, after bis first rage, had fallen into lethargy, and had let her have her way, not even under-standing the tale she told him with so many fawaing piteous caresses and such terrer of a good lookin' lady. This way, miss, if you Ethel followed perforce, and Mr. Bowker led her by intricate ways to the office of a

" No, miss, thank you," answered William

"You do't look the sort to want to mek a cold ner story. What it cost to tell it can Ethel withdrew the proffered florin swiftly,

" Can you direct me to a lawyer's office?" she asked. "Why, yis, miss," said Mr. Bowker. There's Mr. Keen's office roun' the corner It's nine or ten housen up, wi'a brass plaat "Do you know another lawyer," she She had an objection to consulting Mr. Bowker did know of another lawyer,

" Not "I do't git the chance to tak a walk wi' a shabby, and there were fifty or sixty people packed into it like herrings in a barrel. young lady every day. Let alone a nice look. There were hundreds more outside eager for ing un." he added, fearing lest the complia look at him, doomed for the present to be ment might seem feebly expressed, without The prisoner was a good-look disappointed. that addendum,

Sad as she was, she could scarcely thank ing young fellow, tall, straight, and broad him with less than a smile. William grinned shouldered, scrupulously dressed and groomed. He smoothed his silky moustache nerand ducked responsive.

' the door."

vously with his ringed hand, and stood at respire. Mr. Keen was at home and would receive squarely there, at minitary ease. Nobody at first looking at him thought him likely to be pushed his long hair back with both hands, Keen was at home and would receive guilty. The women who were squeezed in ooking at her earnestly and with evident with the other enectators were with him sadnes

Pray take it," said Ethel.

"I think," he began, "I can guess the every one. The proceedings were formal, and neces-

object of your visit." "I am told," she answered, "that you are sarily incomplete. George Bushell, sworn, made his statement, denying the validity of defending Mr. Banks." John nodded mis the check, and producing the crumpled scraps erably, and shifted his papers to and fro he had discovered. The bank manager pon his desk. "I did not know." she went n, "until this morning that any charge had sworn, made his statement, and proved that the prisoner had himself cashed the check. en preferred against him. But I saw from the newspaper that he had no lawyer, and He admitted that he had noticed nothing suspicious or peculiar in Mr. Banks's decame to engage one. Did he send for you? meanor.--Nothing. Had the prisoner anything to say in answer "No," said John unwillingly, "not exact-

ly. We were old school fellows, and his peoto the charge? He need say nothing. Any-thing he did say would be taken down. The le seemed to desert him, and I thoughtthing he did say would be taken down. His voice trailed off, and he left the sen case could not be dealt with there, and would ence unfinished. "Thank you, Mr. Keen," said Ethel, rising have to go for trial.

George answered in a voice which the local from her chair and impulsively holding out her hand. "Any one who has known him reporter called "unmoved," though to her hand. himself it sounded as if somebody else were can tell ho. can tell how ridiculous the accusation is." John took her hand in an embarrassed way, speaking.

I am perfectly innocent of the charge and with embarrasement released it brought against me. I received the check from Mr. Bushell's own hands, and paid the We must do our best," he said, with a dismal attempt at cheerfulness. money over to him on his return from Lon-don. I am at a loss to understand the accu-If I wanted an argument for his inno ence of such a shameful crime," said Ethel reseating herself-" and I certainly don't sation, unless it has been brought forward with the diabolical intention of running an want anything of the sort-I have it with me now. Before a man commits a crime he musi innocent man."

Suddenly a heart had found its way into have a motive for it. George was saving the internal vacuum, and it beat money, and had a considerable sum in his madly at the prisoner's side. Could possession at the very time when he is said the people hear it? There was such a to have forged this check." She spoke with clamor offexcited tongues when the prisoner such an assured and quiet scorn that John had made this speech, that the officials eject-Keen's heart ached for her. But he had his ad half a dozen of the spectators and lodged them on the packed and crowded stairs before silence was restored.

" That is one of two things, Mr. Banks," said the magistrate. "It is either a very guilty, but there was a chance that his complete defence, or a very foolish one. it is not true, nothing could tell more heav ily against you than such a defence."

'It is true," said the prisoner, and nine out of ten helieved him for the moment,

manded until Wednesday. In the mean time, the police would make all enquiry after ₩89. the whereabouts of the notes in which the cheque had been paid. The bank manager which on common occasions Ethel would not had with him a memorandum of the no.es. have spoken to anybody except her mother and, being again put into the box, swore to and her lover, but she spoke of it now its accuracy. The prisoner was removed, no as a matter of course, and with no bail being offered or demanded. The day's work was over, and the crowd dispersed. An pride in George and her certainty of him hour later, the news flew through the town were troublesome to his spirit, for he himself that more than half the notes were traced. was in love with her with all his heart, and Curtice the solicitor had paid them into the it was bitter, to be sure, that she had 30 bank the day after that on which they had much to suffer. "Looking forward to that," been drawn, and being interrogated, had de-dared that the prisoner had handed them to hundred and ten pounds-to keep for him." him in satisfaction of an account long over | She laid the bundle of notes upon the table.

Even in the popular mind, impressed as it curious light upon the case, he thought; but had been by the firmaess of the prisoner's when once he had unfolded the notes, he counter-accusation against his employer, fell back in his official arm chair and looked George's position began to look fishy.

Dinah would have fain left the house on her been an epidemic, and she in a flash of time wown mission, but Daniel, who by this time had caught it. knew the disgrace which had fallen upon him, I "Great heaven !" he gasped, and, rising,

Cheston, magistrate. The human rat in a corner shrieked. It's false ! It's a vile conspiracy !" There rose a cry of indignation from the

little crowd in the packed court. "The child I bore !" groaned Dinah None heard the words but Ethel ; for Dinah,

as she spoke them rose beside the witness box and stretched out her arms as if to save the girl from this last and cruellest blow. Ethel turned to embrace her and fainted on that sheltering bosom.

CHAPTER XIII.

Doubt is not incompatible with belief, firmly and yet have his misgivings about it. Old George believed that Dinah had lied him, and having an interest in that belief, he no clue to the divination of the moment when

may believe. The rightful heir was committed to take

bound over to appear, and waited for the day with every hour a dull agony. It came at said George. "I'll see who's a thievin' i last, and Master George. following his own my house. wise maxim of in for a penny in for a pound, stuck to his tale of a conspiracy. He was anything had been stolen it had certainly not stuck to his tale of a conspiracy. It is a provide any string has been from old George. nesses, but made his simple and despairing "This is a nice sort o' place to hide things judge whom his base protestations made angry. When Ethel had recovered from her swoon in the police court, her deposition was

telligent and active officer whose duty it was to see that she signed it, guided her weak and shaking fingers with such result that her signature looked like that of Guy Fawkes lav as core or two of little peckages, mer after the rack. The judge had read the depo

"Come," he said, brightening a little, "that is something in his favor." He knew his client pretty thoroughly, and thought him had got somehow into the judicial mind that the prisoner was going to marry socially be neath him. When therefore, the name of Ethel Donne was called aloud, and the girl severity of passion worthy of a loftier cause. story If of a conspiracy was true, after all, though very strongly surprised and favorably little bit of butter, and in the chance was certainly one of the slender impressed by her appearance. When

impressed by her appearance. Then appontul of conce, in a fourth a proof of two she told anew the story of the false trust her lover had invested in her hands, the a million sterling opened up to the house est. " I can prove it," said Ethel, quietly. Sh disliked this young man again, but he was The case, said the magistrate, must be re- not as certain of her lover's innocence as she tragedy unusually terrible even for his exper-"You know already," she went on, ience. George stuck to his colors, and pro claimed him elf once more a maligned and " that Mr. Banks and I were engaged to be persecuted character, the victim of an un heard of conspiracy. The jury, without leaving the box found him guilty, and his lordship, frostily remarking that if the prisoner had set up another sort of defense he might have been let off more lightly, in con sideration of his youth, his social condition. and the good prospects he had ruined, sen tenced him to two years' imprisonment There was scarcely a lighter heart that day in Stafford town than old George's. The bur den of fear which had lain upon him for weeks past fell away and left him free-free at least for two years, and two years give and John reached out for it. This cast a

allence argued the whole thing a lie, so far as he with with withering sarcasm. her story of the marriage was concerned. at her with so amazed and stricken a coun-The Saracen stood all that day with bolted doors, shuttered windows, and down blinds. ble himself, and he began to dismiss even the

emotest fear of that from his mind.

'Joseph, you owe me a hundred pound?' Now, could I? Could I ha' been so mean as filled with odds and ends of furniture broken chairs, crippled tables, and the like to ha' said it ?" and in one corner stood a high shouldered He felt magnanimously disdainful at the

next entered was hal

The room he

wardrobe, which had once been made part of thought. the furniture of his brother Joseph's be-

"Her must ha' been an uncommon foolish room. When old Joe died, brother George had laid hands upon everything, even upon sort o' a woman to ha' laid out o' her money all these ears for want o' a scrap like this, those things which were of no use said the considerate George with the certifi Keep a thing long enough and you'll find a cate held between his plump thumb and use for it," was one of George's constantly quoted aphorisms. But he had never finger. "But sence her has laid out o' it, an'-why-Ill-"" He did not complete the sentence, but ho

dreamed of keeping this old wardrobe for such a use as at length he found in it. It may go without saying that the dull schemer had long ceased to have any remorse took the poker in his disengaged hand, hol-

lowed out the fire, put the certificate gently into the hollow, and beat down the glowing coals upon it. As he did so, his brother's about young Joe, or the method by which he after all. A man may believe a thing pretty himself had acquired young Joe's fortune. At latest action came into his mind. Not that a very little distance of time the cheque he had the burping of the will had made any differgiven to his nephew had begun in memory to ence in his position, or could have done, any more than now the destruction of the marcommunicate a sense of warmth to his heart. communicate a sense of warmth to his heart gave it all the nourishment he had to give But he felt like one who waks on unsafe riage certificate made : but the two things ampled stroke of generosity. Lifeless things ground who cannot leave the place, and has which had once belonged to the brother and together sister whose hearts he helped to break were The burning of the will had heralded in a wholly comfortable, as any successful schemer i time and after these years were schemer to a schemer i time and after these years were schemer time and after these ye tenancy of five-and+twenty years : the de struction of the certificate might, for any time, and after these years were scarcely thing he could tell, be as good an omen.

lisely to remind him at all of their first own Whilst he still stood idly beating at the He was absolutely unaffected by them his trial, and the wrongful heir was bound over to appear against him. Ethel also was Rebecca nor any thought about them. coals with the poker, a tap came to the door. " Come in !" cried he, and the housekeeper entered. "Turn the things out o' that theer box."

What am I to do along o' Jane, master ?' che inquired. Mr. Bushell had forgotten the peccant

There was not much in the box, and if maid, but a flush of virtuous heat touched him at the mention of her.

" Mek the baggage pack her things up and n." said he, whilst the housekeeper loosely be off at once," he answered. "I'll have no roguery i' this house, if I can help it." tumbled the things back into the meagre hox.

"Her's a-cryin' fit to split, master, said the housekeeper. "Her swears her mother set her on to it, and says her'll never do it corner was filled, towards the wardrobe. The again 1 can allays keep a look on her. door had long since lost its handle,

"Send her off," said George. "Her's afraid to go home," the house clawed it open, and rapped out a good round keeper pleaded. "Best let her stop, master. Her comes cheaper than a bigger gell would, lay a score or two of little packages, mere newspaper screws, and on these fell the mar sitions and had seen the signature, and it who had inherited a quarter of a million of an' I'il keep a look on her."

There was a consideration there which money and had doubled it. Unfolding them one by one, he displayed their con touched old George. Give him the benefit of the doubt, and say it was pity. "I'll tek a day or two to think it over," h

stepped into the witness-box, his lordship In one was an ounce of cheese, in another a esponded, and the housekeeper was about to retire, when she saw the decayed and mila third a table dewed old coat lying on the table. spoonful of coffee, in a fourth a pinch or two

"Why, master," she said, advancing towards it. "whatever do you mean b bardened official heart began to discern a keeper's vision this hidden stolen treasure, keepin' a rag like that in the parlor, a makin' a litter? the peccant Jane, who had come into the

"Leave it alone " cried George. " I want it." He was never unwilling to show a cofter house by the back way, bounced into the room and stood guiltily transfixed before the side to his nature, when he could do it inex accusing eyes of her master. "Mrs. Bullus," said old George, regarding

pensively. "That garmint," he proceeded, " is th' on'y one thing as is left in the wull the criminal with Rhadamanthine severity, wide world of a poor nevew o' mine. My fetch a policeman." The wretched detected one fell upon her

eldest brother's on'y son he was, an' that' his coat I just found. I'll keep it." mees before him with a countenance of imloring agony. "Why, that'd be young Misder Joseph a "It was my mother as axed me to do it," run away from hum when I was a gell," sai ploring agony.

the housekeeper. " More than twenty 'ear . he declared. " Fetch a policeman," said George again, 83."

and Mrs. Bullus, with no intention of obey-"Five-an'-twenty," said old George. 'Yes ung, left the room. The master of the house I'll keep it. You go an' frighten that little went on opening the little packages, and troilop's life out. Tell her I'll ha' no spread them all out before the miserable mercy on her next time if ever her does such time enough even for the slowest man to turn Jane. "This is wher my household provi a thing again. I'll ha' nobody but upright sions has been a-going to, is it ! Eh ?" said folks i' my house, Mrs. Bullue."

The housekeeper retired, and having " How many shillin'-worths of my property have you soothed Jane with promises of public hang Beyond the marriage he had no need to trou-style? Answer me that this minute, Wheer's log in case of any renewal of her peccadil that policeman. Mrs. Bullus ?"

loes, she mused upon her mister. "He's hard to get on wi'," she concluded. remotest fear of that from his mind. He dined at the Swan, took his way home by train, and for a day or two he lived on in by train. But is boltemain, the boltemain the formation of the share of the s

It's a sad house to ask anybody to come to," said Ethel's mother. "But come if you will, an welcome. How does your father it." Have you ever had such an experience?" "Why, yes, Judge. I was at a funeral on Park avenue one day. The family was poor. The minister had been giving them some talk bear it ?"

" It's broke his heart," answered Dinah. He'll never hold his head up any more." If it seem strange that Mrs. Donne took George's guilt for granted so early, you may remember that she took her cue from his sister, as she and the rest of the world supposed Dinali to be. And Dinah had lways the affair of the cash box in her mind, and that left everything without need of proof. two women parted with a kiss. "Yourn's a worse trouble than ourn."

said the yeoman's widow. "God help you to bear it !" " God bless you !" answered Dinab, and so went her way. The Saracen's doors were closed, the Saracen's affairs were wound up, within a week of the as ze trial. D sniel held his head low for very shame, but on the

fler around his eyes, beekoned me to go over to him. 'Shure,' says he 'never mind the meat bill. I'll send it in receipted to morrow aged a blow of this kind sometimes falls with comparative lightness. It is not experience Never forget Pat Murphy.' I didn't. Does your business pay ?" asked the alone which enables age to bear its troubles court. The old beat has gone out of the easily.

"It might, Judge, only people hang up the pulse, the heart is dulled to pain. Daniel undertaker with much more readiness even than they hang up the tailor. So I have one the less would get away from the scene of this disgrace, and to him also it was a of this disgrace, and to him also it was a grief to lay his bones among strangers. But dying selection from the Iliad: he could no longer endure to live where every. body had known him, and where an honest

name had been his pride and boast so long Mrs Donne's lawyer had news for her when she consulted him about the advisa-"You said, I believe," continued his Hor"

or, "that you had a little j b to attend this afternoon. Now, knowing that this bility of parting with the farm. "I can find you a tenant in a week," he job merited your attention, why aid you answered her. "But unloss I'm mistaken, is

ome intoxicated last night?' won't be a farm much longer." " Not a farm !" cried Mrs. Donne. " Why The undertaker suddenly ceased to sm assumed a very grave cast of countenance,

ot? I couldn't abear to think of ite bein and said in a Greenwood whisper : built over." "Even undertakers, Judge, take a drink

"Well you know, that's as you like, of occasionally." "So I presume," was the reply. "But course, but I dare say you have heard that coal has just been proved on Hilly Fiece, and that's as good as proving it at Quarymoor. ever become intoxicated when you have husiness to attend to. Will you promise ?' Mrs. Donne. And, in point of fact, the land 'll be worth five or six times what it was "By all that is dismal." was the grave yardy response, and then Mr. Spry quickly directly the new pits get well to work. Rent. vanished around a neighboring corner. it out by all means, since you want to, but Brookiyn Eagle.

keep it in your own hands for a little time at east. If I'm not very much mistaken, there's a big fortune underneath. a bigger ortun than all the Donnes ever got out of

the surface-long as they farmed it !" "Do you know of anybody as 'll take it?" asked Mrs. Donne. said

make an offer of Quarrymoor, if you're agreeable.

and. "He'll be a good tenant," said the lawyer.

Old Sir Sydney left him wonderfully well to herself for the tea kettie, do, Il things considered, and it's been a water and sat down on the stowe to boil. She fortune to him to find coal on the Stafford. discovered her mistake scon after.

FREIGHT BILLS IN DAKOTA. Some young men of Grafton, D. T., had an dea that the town was an excellent point for the banking business, and accordingly pooled in their surplus cash and formed a company.

"Well, I'm not certain," said the man of business, "but Sir Sydney Cheston has got it into his head that he'd like to try his food at farming, and he has commissioned for them. Therefore was supposed to well of 13,000, and it required all the capital of the bank at Dubuque Automatic the safe was supposed to well of 13,000, and it required all the capital of the bank at Dubuque Automatic the safe was supposed to well of 13,000, and it required all the capital of the bank at Dubuque Automatic the safe was supposed to well of 13,000, and it required all the capital of the bank at Dubuque Automatic the safe was supposed to well of the bank at Dubuque Automatic the safe was supposed to well of the bank at Dubuque Automatic the safe was supposed to well. the bank to pay the freight bill. However the young men are not cast down by triffer "Oh, dear, yes," said Mrs. Donne : "I'm and having secured their safe have gone ress." "Oh, dear, yes," said Mrs. Donne; "I'm agreeable. And it'll be nicer to have a gen-ileman as won't mind laying a bit out on the and."

-An absent-minded wo han, mistaking elf up with