anywhere near you? I shall mind you of

And so the ugly thing was buried; but they thought about it, though they both kept

Dinah, my gell, to be away from the Sara cen. I never thought to part wi' him till I come downstairs toes foremost. But robody knows what'll happen. Nobody knows what'll

The old fellow was quite broken, and sa dull eyed with his hands on his thin knees. He looked about him on the journey, with childlike curiosity, and made no observation but one. This was drawn from him when, after a distance of thirty miles had been traveled by rail, he saw the familiar skeleton

frame above a coal mine.

the coal again." But before he was settled in his new home, he had to spend a day or the hotel, a little countryfied house with a bowling green behind it. He sat there in the snuggery most of his time beside the fire, and once or twice gave orders to which and once or twice gave orders to which are condently imagining himself way, wondering what Dinah's topic could way, wondering what Dinah's topic could be a face I used to know,"

back at the Saracen.

"They'n gone an' changed the shelves an' the bottle, Dinah," he complained; "an' said Dinah, once within the office. "But you instead o' the clock bein' wheer it used to be, can't fail to know why father an' me came they'n stuck it up at my back. It nigh on breaks a man's back to look and see what time it is.'

"Never mind, dear," said Dinah. reading these signs; "we'll have everything right by an' by. An' then you'll be comfortable

again, won't you?' "You bide wi' me, my gell," answered Dan

iel, "an' you'll be all right. Eh?"
"Oh, yes," said Dinah soothingly, thinking that the old man wandered. But he had something on his mind, though it was perhaps the last thing in the world that Dinah was likely to think of. The thing was on his mind, and yet was somehow not to be got at until on the second day, after sitting dull eyed and silent for two or three hours, he Dinah would be glad to see him, suddenly arose and called loudly for Jane and Mary, late maids of the Saracen, who were miles away, but one of the young women at the house answered his call. He peered at her with no glance of recognition at first, but in a while he grasped his own purpose, and hooking her towards him with a forefinger,

Theer's a lawyer i' the town, ain't theer ?"

the plaas." The girl took took the chilling, day or two." Dinah's mild eyes seemed to but scood looking at him as if uncertain to obey. "Don't you be afeared o' me," Daniel went on, seating himself by the fire once more. "I want a lawyer. I ain't all I used to be, but I feel well and bright to-day, an' I've got a lot o' business to do. Fatch a lawyer, an' let me do it while theer's time."

"Very well. sir." said the girl and coince this transparent humbug through and though, as they did, but he could not yet wound her by saying one word about his own designs.
"Are business prospects good here, Mr. Keen?" asked-Binah.
"Well, that's rather hard to determine to the could not yet wound her by saying one word about his own designs.
"Are business prospects good here, Mr. Keen?" asked-Binah.

wife, and alarmed a respectable elderly solicities in this neighborhood. And one may as well and the tor so much that he ran after the boy all the get the best sort of practice as the worst, you and his way back to to the inn, to the great wonder-ment of the inhabitants, who had never seen him run for forty years past.

The landlord was in the snuggery, mount-

ing guard as it were over Daniel, when the solicitor arrived.

"Be you a lawyer?" asked Daniel.
"Yes, sir, I am," returned the new comer, somewhat out of breath with his exer-

"You can draw up a will all right? Eh?" "So as theer can't be no manner o' doubt

o' Bramwich, do give an' bequeath everythin'

"You wish me to draw up a will to that effect ?"

"Course I do," returned Daniel petulantly. What else did I send for you for "Do you wish me to specify the proper

ties?" asked the solicitor.
"Does it matter," asked Daniel. "Can't l will 'em in a lump?''

If you wish to do so, certainly. "Very well, then," answered Daniel. "put em in a lump. All to my daughter Dinah.

An' look sharp about it, mister, for I'm a gettin' on' i' years, an' I do't feel much like wearin' I can tell you."

The solicitor asked the necessary ques-

tions, took the necessary notes, and went his read it over to the old man, who signed it.

The landlord and the solicitor's clerk also signed it, Daniel paid the bill, and the thing was ever.

"Now, you wouldn't ha' thought," said the behalf of the point a moral nowadays? Do others' wisdom? Or is compared to the point a moral nowadays? Do others' nodding his head backwards.

"All things change i' this compared to the point a moral nowadays? Do others' nodding his head backwards.

"All things change i' this compared to the point a moral nowadays? Do others' nodding his head backwards.

"All things change i' this compared to the point a moral nowadays? Do others' nodding his head backwards. read it over to the old man, who signed it.

Now, you wouldn't ha' thought," said Daniel, addressing the landlord, "as an ode mon like me, as has got maybe on'y a day or two to last, ud be sich a Gawby as to wait till

got to leave, you know.'

So it does, mate," said Daniel, who saw his drift, and was equal to him. "So it does." But he could not resist the desire to say that Dinah would be pretty warm when he was gone - pretty warm. Warmer than warming with the theme. And indeed Paniel had a good deal of property down in the old country in one form or another, and a balance at the bank, since the sale of the Saracen, the figures of which

might have startled some people. Of course the folk of a small country town Wrethedale had their nine days wonder about the immigrants and strangers who had settled in their midst. Beyond the fact that they seemed fairly well to do plain people, little was learned of them for a time. fact that they seemed fairly well to do plain people, little was learned of them for a time. The new settlers paid their way and went to church, and in a few weeks they were accepted as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at the faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at them faded as a fact, and the wonder at the faded as a fact, and the wonder at the faded as a fact, and the wonder grew finer and warmer, Dinah used to tempt leisure. It was illogical, but shall we cry out her father out for a walk now and again, and the change of air and scene and life began to do the old man as much good as anything could hope to do at his time of life. There had been nothing in George's case to carry it beyond the local sphere of the local papers, and here in this western town, a hundred miles as the crow flies from the scene of his crime, they felt safe from gossip and from any remembrance or knowledge of the undeserved shame which had fallen upon

Wrethedale was so much out of the general mother way, was such an old, settled, sober sided sort of place, that it found a simple minded wonder in things which would never have been noticed in a commonly active place of its own size, It boasted of three solicitors already, two of whom played cricket in the and did and had no other earthly business It was therefore certainly a little curious that in the space of some three months after the arrival of the two new households a fourth solicitor, unknown to anybody in the neighborhood, should suddenly blossom out and

JOSEPH'S COAT.

BY DAVID CHRISTIE MURRAY.

By DA

liked best amongst all the acquaintances found a way to execute it. At Shareham you was young Keen's closest friend, and the alike a burden to him. He reproached him anywhere near you? I shall mind you of them, had been a little less than equivoners again, and at the seed to go and smoke with me," Ethel and shewerd steadily and gently, "Let us go together, and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and never say a word about it any shewer and over sagain, and at our miles from Wrethedale, there you master was young Keen's closest friend, and the shim was an out of them, had a birth of them, had a birth of them, had a birth of them, had a way to execute it. At Shareham young gould she shou opinion of one John Keen who was a solicitor. She was just solemnly wondering ballous the word whether the John of Wrethedale had anything whether the John of old days, when she Martyr at Wrethedale was an arrant puffer, was a pretty girl five-and-twenty years ago casements and howled in the vaults.

guilty, "that's my name. Are you staying here, Miss Banks, in Wrethedale?" "Yes," said Dinah. "Father an' me are living here.

"Dear me!" said John, absolutely blushing at this third pretence, and looking guiltier than ever. "That is singular. I have come to settle down here professionally."
"Indeed!" said Dinah; "I noticed the

name as I came by." She was casting about in her mind what to say or do. The wound ame above a coal mine.
"It's been fields for ever so long," said
"It's been fields for ever so long," said "It's been fields for ever so long," said time, or, for the matter of that, in three years?

John was in the way, and yet she liked him, and was not sorry to see an old face, being a woman of strong local affections. She was

here, Mr. Keen, and—"
"Miss Banks," said John, "never say
a word upon that question. I have more right
to grieve for you than you are likely to be able to guess. But I know nothing of it now If you will allow me, I will wipe it out of my mind here and now. From this minute forward I have forgotten all about it."

"Thank you," said Dinah tremulously Her errand was already fulfilled, and they talked without constraint on either side unti she rose to go.
"I hope," seid John with another blush

name her once. This silence forced Dinah's hand. She was only a woman after all. "Yes, sir," said the grl, "several."
"Yes, sir," said the grl, "several."
"Very well," said Daniel; "you send for one of 'em, d'ye hear. An' theer's a shillin' for you. Send a lad as can run sharp, and let him fatch the best lawyer i' the plaas." The grl took took the shilling, the plaas." The grl took took the shilling, but saood looking at him as if magnetic that the plaas."

"Very well, sir," said the girl; and going just at first," said John courageously. "What out, she despatched the messenger, a static boy, who being impressed with the sense that the business was urgent, ran 3° if for a mid-

and I don't know that it matters much if I he appreciated the fact. He could scarcely don't practice at all, except that I don't want resist the smile that strove to curve his to lead an idle life. And whatever there is tructure.

to be done here will be of the best class, even structure.

'the conveyancing," 'Hallo! Bushell?" cried a voice, and he

being a man of some experience, he saw the boldness of the assertion.

"Then, I Dan'l Banks, late o' the parish she got home, or that she knelt beside her "Good mornin', Sir Sydney," said old "Then, I Dan'l Banks, late o' the parish she got home, or that she knelt beside her she got home, or that she knelt beside her "Good mornin", Sir Sydney," said old bed long that afternoon in the quiet of her George as he turned. "Fine growin' mornin' the hope of Ethel, or at worst the determina-tion to try for her; and her own child had taken Quarrymoor farm upon his hands, as

> if he had not been a villain.
>
> I say again—I do not believe that there is any criminally minded cur in the whole world George in his provincial slow drawl; "I who would not forego his crime if he could don't mind if I do ride. It's a goodish pace

out see the brood which it is sure to rear. And oh! young Joe of five and-twenty years since young Joe no longer by this old fellow, moving as heavily and deliberately time, if anywhere extant, but middle aged as he spoke, climbed into the dog cart, and and verging on the fifties and a little grey, if took his seat by the Baronet's side you could know the grief your folly planted, "Nobody iver expected to see m and verging on the little grief your folly planted, took the necessary notes, and went his took his seat by the baronet s side.

"Nobody iver expected to see me a riding the hend how plain simplicity could sit down to himself, to hend how plain simplicity could sit down to himself, and took plain to himself, and the necessary notes, and went his took himself, and hend how plain simplicity could sit down to himself, and hend how plain simplicity could sit down to himself, and hend how plain simplicity could sit down to himself, and hend how plain simplicity could sit down to himself, and hend how plain simplicity could sit down to himself, and hend how plain simplicity could sit down to himself, and hend how pla

ience of much sterling worth.

her rascally lover. She felt and thought in-dignantly and with many a throb of that deep "Ah, poor Joe-ziph," said George, di was a felon, and at that nour in prison, and syllables, and putting his company manner it was cruel to her way of thinking, and dishonoring to her, to suppose that she would ever look at another man again. She had "It wasn't a bad thing for you, Bushell," loved, and though she had loved a scoundrel, she had loved him none the less, until she

newly betrayed you? I am not. I have de- was his way of trying to look dignified. claimed against the pretended affection of women in my time, pretty eloquently as I with his whip. "That was a private house,

and, probably enough, be happy wife and der?" r before we see her for the with all these pains buried, though not for-

miles twice every Sunday through the year familiar.

"I've never been a don at travelin'," said Daniel, "an' I'm a bit mythered like;" he meant, confused and mentally harassed.
"An' it feels cold cut o' doors. Mayhap I've growed a bit nash wi' sittin' so much at the fireside. But I'm willin' to goo annywhear.

"Bushell, she was a pretry girl five-and-twenty years ago whis shand to her.
"Why, Miss Banks, said John with an indefinable air of guilt upon him, "this is a surprise indeed!"
"I should never ha' thought of seeing growed a bit nash wi' sittin' so much at the fireside. But I'm willin' to goo annywhear.

"Bushell, she was a pretry girl five-and-twenty years ago who had an ear for music was when he and your poor nephew Joe were sweethearts."

"Sweethearts, was they?" asked George. Internally he anathematised his nephew Joe, John scraped acquaintance with the rector at Shareham, expressed himself as being deeply interested in church music, got leave to try you here," said simple Dinsh. Is that your the owner of the owner of the owner.

"I should never ha' thought of seeing you here," said simple Dinsh. Is that your the owner of the owner.

"An' it feels cold cut o' doors. Mayhap I've growed a bit nash wi' sittin' so much at the fireside. But I'm willin' to goo annywhear."

"I should never ha' thought of seeing you here," said simple Dinsh. Is that your the owner of the owner.

"An' it feels cold cut o' doors. Mayhap I've growed a bit nash wi' sittin' so much at the fireside. But I'm willin' to goo annywhear."

"I should never ha' thought of seeing you here," said simple Dinsh. Is that your the owner.

"I should never ha' thought of seeing you here," said simple Dinsh. Is that your the owner.

"I should never ha' thought of seeing you here," said simple Dinsh. Is that your the owner.

"I should never ha' thought of seeing you here," said simple Dinsh. Is that your the owner. of a salaried organist. The rector jumped Screed. Screed wasn't a bad sort." at the offer, and John almost swore him to "A godly person, Mr. Screed was." organists. Next, the secret schemer told the Vicar of St. Stephen's that he had a very Baronet still talking genially and loudly at his side, and partook of the great man's

> 48 of old. At first, when John went to church after coured peace into his heart and sacred joy; nd to Ethel-while she played it -there was an longer any sorrow in the world, and she sabbaths at least were filled with a tranuility she had never hoped to taste again.
>
> It came to her ears after a while that all this was John Keen's doing. Her pride prompted her to surrender her joy rather than owe it to him, but she had not the hears or this extreme measure. She contented

CHAPTER XV. The Saracen having fallen into new hands, day had looked on the sunshiny street with billious eyes, and on many a winter night had shrieked and creaked complainingly against the stormy weather, was taken down and relegated to a lumber room, and ultimately chopped up for firewood. For weeks the front of the house was obscured by scaffolding, and quite a little army of men were at work about it. Finally it came out with plate glass windows and stuccoed front, with a great gilded sign which expressed it as the Saracen and Railway Hotel. Within, things were changed as much as without, and Meshach and Aminadab and the rest found

on its reopening night no fit home for

sort, I should say. They're county people except as a token of the removal and that sort of thing, you know, Miss Banks, in this neighborhood. And one may as well get the best sort of practice as the worst, you and his daughter. They had gone know." but she regarded John so seriously that he continued as if in self defense:

"Un yes, of course," to this, more safe in the possession of his fortune continued as if in self defense:

"The heiress had left him in undisputed possession of the fold." "I can afford to wait for a year or two, could not understand its why and wherefore, resist the smile that strove to curve his

work I should prefer."

Stood a slashing looking bay mare. The
Dinah said: "Oh, yes, of course," again,
and having wished him well, she shook hands complexion and cheery of aspect, and he were

o' Bramwich, do give an bequeath everythin own chamber, for she saw that what had for the crops, isn't it?"

own chamber, for she saw that what had for the crops, isn't it?"

George had no interest in farming, but Sir

once won Ethel, and might have worn her worthily, and have been blessed in her love, "Splendid weather," said the baronet. and she in his, if he had not been ——Ah me! "Going up to the court? Shall I give you a

"Why, thank you, Sir Sydney," said

up theer."
"So it is," assented Sir Sydney; and the

"Changes behind us, there," said Cheston,

wooden gravity was quite enough to beguile a One of two things very soon became evident to John Keen, and he had little heart to listener into the belief that he had at least

now afore mekin' his will, would you?"

choose between them, though heart enough
"Well," said the landlord, who was of

to face them ten times over.

But either his good humored noisy voice.

"The first time fortune to which he had no claim except from a curious turn, "that depends on what you've move in coming to Wrethedale and setting up I ever saw the place was on the very day there had been made too soon, or it was a when your nephew Joe — my old chum you know he store and she was a when your nephew Joe — my old chum you know he store and she was and ran away from home. Gad! He must and give him the news in spite of Dinah's in no mind to be comforted for the loss of have been out of temper that day, for he her own wounded self respect or the loss of knocked me down too. I never told anybody released criminal before anybody eise could

"Ah, poor Joe-ziph," said George, dividing wound she carried, that her plighted husband the word again into two equally balanced

said the Baronet, laughing. But the laugh fell into a sigh, half perhaps for his old

"Young Keen!" said the baronet; " why,

fectionate commiseration from John's lips.
"young lawyer Keen has followed old Banks fected him physically, and he used to get up "I'll do it somehow. What a chuckleheaded and his gell, has he?" He turned it over and rub the part it threatened, welking

he'd have gone for her. Nice woman she was, eh? I always used to pull up at the

surprise indeed!"

Shareham, expressed himself as being deeply interested in church music, got leave to try five and twenty years give time enough to get the organ, of which instrument he knew next to nothing, enthusiastically pronounced guilty, "that's my name Argument to and offered at once to subscribe the state of the could scarcely help a little soreness at this reiterated mention of him. Did not five and twenty years give time enough to get the organ, of which instrument he knew next to nothing, enthusiastically pronounced upon it, and offered at once to subscribe the rector at for he could scarcely help a little soreness at this reiterated mention of him. Did not five and twenty years give time enough to get the organ, of which instrument he knew next to nothing, enthusiastically pronounced upon it, and offered at once to subscribe the rector at for he could scarcely help a little soreness at this reiterated mention of him. Did not five and twenty years give time enough to get the organ, of which instrument he knew next to nothing, enthusiastically pronounced upon it, and offered at once to subscribe the organ to this reiterated mention of him. Did not five and twenty years give time enough to get the organ, of which instrument he knew next to nothing, enthusiastically pronounced upon it, and offered at once to subscribe the organ transfer. teen pounds per annum towards the expenses it was about her that he floored poor old

> secrecy, using such vehomence in his request that the rector thought him a sort of bashful saint. Then the young pretender incited the rector to offer the berth to the arrant duffer who tortured the churchgoers and the churchgoers the golden area a good feed. Stop and at St. Stephen's, and the rector did see it done, will you. By the by Bushell, it, setting another five to John's fifteen and remind me, when this licensing work's over making the pay twenty pounds a year. The that I have something to say to you about arrant duffer also jumped, and went about business. That's why I pulled up for you

vicar of St. Stephen's that ne nau a vol, ungel of an organist in his congregation, and told Dinah also that the post of organist was glory. For Sir Sydney Cheston was the greatest swell those parts could boast, and man like the rest of us, loved to sit ongrings of her soul, and the congregation in in the high places and be seen in good com the Martyr's walls were no longer Martyred pany. But all the while, as he sat on the bench, he gave his vote only as the better-conditioned of his neighbors gave theirs, and At first, when some completing this arrangement, he felt that he had cheated himself. Ethel was no longer n her old place to be furtively stared at. But had gone to live in the parish to which she had controlled the nealing organ retired. What was that for? Was there is the nealing organ retired. anything in it-anything that threatened

uimself? Young Keen had begun to defend the the church radiant, and her prisoner, and had then suddenly resigned the

Was it law that young Goorge had committed forgery anyhow, and must in any case-uffer for it, and had Keen advised the mother to be quiet until his term of imprisnment was over! Mr. George Bushell wa a wooden man and a man of considerable atherself with snubbing John, and he bore it tainments in the way of ignorance. He way with wonderful meekness. in that to prevent the very commonest point in the law to be a mystery to him. He was the fraudulent owner of a great fortune, and that of itself was enough to make him suspiassumed a new aspect and a new title. The that of itself was enough to make him suspireal old Saracen, who for many a summer gious. Of course, he had no fear of any punishment beyond the loss of the fortune; would not that be punishment enough? It is not punishable to commit an offense against the law when the offense is utterly beyond detection, and the certificate he had destroyed had been lost for twenty-five years before he found and destroyed is. followed Dinab

Why had young Keen followed Dinah sanks? "I believe," Sir Sydney had said, Banks? "that if Bank's girl had been a year or two younger, he'd have gone for her." Tha meant Lawyer Keen. George saw no reason why a man of six and twenty should not marry a woman of three and forty if he see his mind that way; and if lawyer Keen knew themselves elsewhere with a general feeling of Dinah's claim, it might be worth his while to overlook the difference of a year or two and make a match of it.

Prosperous George Bushell, pausing before

this clumsy and wandering way, but never by any chance making four of them, Mr. Bushel contrived to make himself signally uncomfor table. That there was something in young Keen's following of Dinah — something beyond mere chance—seemed certain. Then he re membered Cheston had said that Keen had been sweet on Miss Donne. She was there also. Now, it the Miss, Donne lovers tell each other everything—Dinah and Miss Donne were living alone in a townful of strangers—women tell each other everything if the lowers to held of Dinah's atom, he -if the lawyer got hold of Dinah's story, he would know how futile her fears had and would set her on the track at once. Altogether, the mere fact of John Keen having followed the two women was full of peril for asid John guiltly once more, beginning to turned to face a middle aged man sitting in a drop beneath Dinah's gaze, "is the sort of neat dog cart, between the shafts of which days, there had been a sort of revival of the memory of errant Joe which of itself left an effort. uneasy sense of dread and expectancy on the old man's mind.

He got at everything by slow and round about mental processes; and at last reached what seemed to him to be the real knot to e untied in this case. What was he to d —in brief -to keep young George out of the way when his time had expired and he was released from prison? It was patty evi dent that, if the mother moved at all, i would be for her son's sake, and not for her own.

"There's some sham in it, I'm certain an sure,' said he to himself. "The child must ha' been born i' wedlock, but I reckon h came afore his time. It's that as made her keep her tongue betwixt her teeth all thi time, an' now if her does anythin' at all, it'll be for the lad's sake."

There were elements in this case which puzzled him, for he could neither compre dishonor But when once the central idea had taken root in George's mind, it rose to "All things change i' this world." said George. "We've no abidin' city here." His tain as he well could be that Dinah was no likely to move in her own behalf, and that if she moved at all, it would be to endow the accident of birth. If Lawyer Keen got to get at him?

And across the schemer's brain there flashed a sudden jubilant ray. The copy of the certificate was gone. might not be a matter of any great difficulty to get rid of the original, and then to defy all possible attempts against his property. happy thought, surely, but yet leading to al manner of unpleasant complications. Lead ng to dangers also. The ray seemed less

ibilant. The church at which Dinah and young Joe had so long since been wed was famous in who wished to be married. It was but a mile r two from George's house, and he had "Gad, I was," returned Cheston: known it from babyhood. The parson who "Here's the High Street," thought old had officiated at Dinah's wedding was doad against a nature so perverted? Are you Goorge; "they can see as I'm a-ridin' along and the patish clerk had gone the same way logical when any dear and trusted friend has with a baronet;" and he looked sulky, which The marriage had been performed at Whitsuntide, at which festive season in old days some fifty or sixty unions were went to b selebrated at Waston church, oftener than women in my time, pretty elequently as I with his winp. "That was a private house, telebrate at waster character, ottener than have fancied. Let the wounded heart speak and they're turning it into a shop. The for a moment as its agonies prompt it. Natures less fine than hers have been "Ah, said George, who, in spite of his business habits, had a true countryman's into the church certificate, as the old schemer not mistaken in her, she will grow backslowly to morethan ber first ripeness of sweet nature, lived theer. Where's he moved to, I wonders and probably enough he happy wife and doz?" but he had read somewhere of a guilty lord who had illegisimised his brother's children you don't half know the news, Bushell. He and seized their estates simply by tearing out left weeks ago. He's gone to live in the same place with that poor little Miss Donne, parish register kept in an old church. He Let us get back to the story.

"I'm not going to be beaten," said John
resolutely, when he had failed a dozen times the young lady. So was I; but I'm too old at least in his efforts to meet Ethel. "I came to think about that sort of thing nowadays. here in the hope that I should be able to You and I have kept out of the trap pretty I have already spoken, and he could never make her a little bit happier, or, at all events, well, haven't we, Bushell?"

I can fancy what Ethel's scorn would have life's a-beginnin' to close in, Sir Sydney," been could sbe have heard that phrase of affective will be said George. "And so," he thought, shoulder. This terrible vague hand affective well have been could sbe have heard that phrase of affective well and I nave kept out or the trap pretty I nave already spoken, and he could never contemplate himself in the act of tearing out the register of his nephew's marriage without the register of his nephew's m

ourglarious entrance to the church, in The He had scarcely pluck enough for such an enterprise, and indeed burglary seemed unnecessary. A public omnibu passed the church every half-hour in the summer time, and one fine hot summer da ne was set down at an hotel a hundred yerds from the porch. He drank a glass of whisky to steady his nerves, and then walked into the street and strolled by the churchyard. The sexton was bobbing up and down in half made grave, and George, leaning his arms upon the mossy stones of the wall accosted him.

" Are you sexton here?" The man answered in the affirmative. "Been hore long? Eh?"

"Seven 'ear come Christmas," said the exton. Old George's head began to swim, and his heart grew muffled on a sudden. A minute passed before he spoke again, and the sexton by that time was bobbing up and down in his

grave once more.
"I wanted to find out," said the melo dramatist, when his voice and wits returned to him, "about a wedding as took place here five-and twenty 'ear ago. There's a bit o' property dependin' on it."

Yes, sir," said the sexton, scenting fees and pausing at his task. "I can get the keys, sir, if you'd like to look at the regis-

"Very well," said George pompously "I'll jine you i' the church in five minutes."
"Very well, sir," said the sexton; and having driven his spade into the clay, he took up his cap and jacket, and swung leisurely off to the vicarage. The meiodramatic schemer also sauntered away, his inexpressive countenance showing nothing of his inward pains, though his head was swimming again and the curious muffled feeling at the heart had returned. The road led half-way round the churchyard, as he knew, and then a by-way ran at the back, so that the burial place was islanded, so to speak. He walked leisurely until he reached the main road again, and then, seeing the sexton in the act of unlock ing the church-door, he quickened his pace little, and felt such a tremor of dread porch that he dodged suddenly into the sacred building as though a bull had been behind him. The sexton, who was already half way up the aisle, failed to notice this curion entry, but George felt the necessity of steady ing himself, and made a resolute effort. Th vague terrible hand, backed by a presence yet more vague and terrible, was behind him What if young Keen should come to look fo the register at that very hour and moment Ugh ! what a disagreeable fancy !

" About '59 or '60," said old George huski ly. He had known that the task would be hard one, but he found it harder than he feared. Yet, his wooden face showed no

thing.
"What name, sir?" "John Smith an' Mary Ann Thomas, said the guilty one, speaking more huskily than before. "Here, I'll look for it."

He put on his gold-rimmed glasses, and drawing a book towards him, turned over the leaves one by one. They had a faint odor suggestive of long imprisonment from light nd air which reminded him of the discovery of his nephew's coat. The sexton sat down at the other side of the vestry table, with his arms upon it, and watched the search drowsi ly. The day was hot, and the sexton nodded once or twice, and, just as the old schemer had begun to hope that he might fall asleep, caught himself up with a great snatch, and became prematurely wide awake.

"Dry work, eh, my man?" said George with husky pomposity.
"Yes, indeed, sir," said the sexton.
The entries for 1859 were in one volume, and those for the year following in another

George had taken up the wrong volume, but he plodded through it to the end, and with curious new tremor closed it and took up the other. "A slow job, ch" he said with a great

"Yes, indeed, sir," said the sexton, a dry un too, sir, as you say.'

"Yes," said George, "it's all that. Could you get me a glass o' water? An' maybe, fter all that diggin', you wouldn't mind glass o' beer yourself—eh? said the sexton, and old "Thankee George, still turning over the leaves, drew a shilling from his pocket, and, without looking at the man, pushed it across the table Now, the sexton was a fairly honest, dutiful enough to have included an entry made be fore the great Registration act came int being, he would probably have found strength

equal to his day, and would have resisted his semptation. But he knew well enough that every entry these dusty old volumes held was snug and safe in Somerset House, there to be seen on payment of a shilling; and h elt, therefore, that there was no particular need to keen watch and ward over any respectable old party who wished to hunt out certificate. And grave digging on a hot sumcertificate. And grave digging on a not summer's day is a thirsty occupation, and the sexton was dry. So he accepted the shilling with thanks, and having poured out a glass of rather stale water from the vicar's carafe,

he put on his hat, and left ancient and uninstructed melodrama to its work. Old George, with a dreadful feverish haste, raced through the leaves until he reached the date he sought for. There was quite a glut by habit set the rule under the page, thrust it well up against the back of the volume, and at a single stroke of the keep blade severed the leaf. He folded it neatly, though he shook aguishly all the while, and put it in his ocket. the certificates, that he might look natural when the sexton should return.

By-and by he came, rubbing a hand across "I can't find it," said George, throwing himself back a little, and wiping his fore head with his handkerchief.

"Is there any evidence as the parties was

married here, sir?" asked the sexton, feeling himself bound to show a little interest in con eideration of the tip.
"It was allays took to be so," said George.

"An' it's quite sure as they was married in "If they was married at all," said George. He was in a dreadful tremor inside, but he felt bound to keep the pretence going and to depart naturally.

"Is there much dependin' on it?" asked

the sexton, beginning to lock up the books.
"Two or three thousand," said George, growing easier as the despoiled volume went out of sight. "You'll ha' to try Somerset House, sir," the man said, turning the key in the lock.

"What for?" asked George.
"Stifficate o marriage," said the sexton. All on 'em goes up to Somerset House, from every parish church in the land, sir." George's head began to swim again, and nce more his heart felt muffled and stiffled ın iss beat. "Is all them," he said stiffly and slowly

"An' can anybody see 'em?"

at Somerset House ?- all them as I've been lookin at ?" "Yes, sir," said the sexton, " every one of 'em."

"Ch yes, sir, anybody. "You'll ha' to

"Yes, sir," replied the sexton, who was leading the way down the aisle by this time, swinging the the keys in his hand. "The law's very strict, sir. I b'lieve

it's transportation for life if anybody destroys George gave a husky little groan.

CHAPTER XVI.

and going clumsily about to commit a useless

ing or caring whither his tootsteps led him By-and-by he began to clear a little, and He had always been a moral man on his own peculiar lines, but he had naturally listened, more or less unwillingly, to a good deal of bad language in his time, and now he felt his knowledge useful, and employed it to the full. If any stranger could have come suddenly upon this respectable, solid looking old man, n spotless black broadcloth, hat of broadish rim, snow white linen, and respectable grey whiskers, and could have heard his language might have startled him. But before old deorge had gone thrice through his stock of phrases—he was literally without invention—his head began to whirl, and his eyes saw nothing but a silvery mist with splashes in it of alternate ink and fire. More than anything else could have done, his fear sohered him. He had been taking God's name in vain horribly, and now perhaps he was going to die. More than once he had heard of sudden udgment.

He crept back into the road again and alked towards the town, a little bent and blanched. He was getting on in years, and these violent emotional exercises break an old man a good deal. A sturdy walker who road. The second certificate was burned that he despised sentiment — until it touched night as the first had been, though he felt him.

"Have you any doubt about his guilt?" no sense of triumph as he burned it, but only one of aching terror and remorseful

Sitting by his lonely fireside—for even in summer affire is a necessity in the coal country—he drank pretty freely, and at last with his pipe in his hands and his feet on the fender, he fell asleep. And as he slept he when he admitted it. fender, he fell asleep. And as he slept he areamed a curious dream. He had gone forareamed a curious dream. He had gone forward in time, and it was the day when George Banks's term of imprisonment should expire. The dreamer was somewhat invisible in a grey dream mist, but, in thus arms.

"Are there extenuating circumstances?" asked Sir Jonas. "You must have something to go on." "Perhaps," said George, "you will be go good Sir Jonas." expire. The dreamer was somewhat invisiin a grey dream mist, but in the same rey mist he saw a massive door, which he knew for the entrance of the prison, and about it were Ethel Donne, and Dinah, and about it were Ethel Donne, and Dinan, and shout it were Ethel Donne, and Dinan, and young lawyer Keen. He knew, as people do in dreams, what brought them all there. They sir Jonas touched the spring blind and let a sudden flood of summer light into the room. his own. Old George, powerless and tongue tied, waited in agony for the door to open. "The fellow's in earnest," thought Sir tied, waited in agony for the door to open.
After a long time it began to move, slowly, Jonas, and, seating himself, nodded at his alowly, slowly, and when at last it stood wide, visitor to signify attention. The sagacious slowly, slowly, and when at last it stood wide, visitor to signify attention. The sagacious he knew, with an incredible revulsion of ease eyes looked straight at George and discomand joy, that the prisoner was lost, and that whereabouts.

sat up dazed and miserable. He mixed a listencr to be moved in behalf of the man fifth or sixth stiff tumbler and drank it, for, whose cause he seemed to plead. like other men oppressed by care, he was beginning to fly to that false and foolish so waked, it fled him when he slept. The fire pect o' doing so." burned out, and he awoke chill and desolate to find the chimney-piece clock marking the unheard of hour of half past one. He went to bed oppressed by fears and remorses, and tossing an aching head in the dark, tried to force sleep and the dream back again. But

yould have it true!

the earliest train for London.

Everybody has heard of Messrs. Crossus Brothers. They are leviathan financiers, They make loans to empires, and count their

certainty of being attended to.

clerk into a comfortable room where sat Sir about He had vaguely expected a tangled growth of tubes, a half dozen telegraphic machines, and a disorderly well of papers – Bank of England notes and acceptances from Rothschild.

o a seat. George needed more than this to beln him

out. He was here on an impudent enter-prise, intending no less thar to heodwink this great financier, and make a rat's paw of of 118,000,000 lbs., or almost 73 per cent. him; and when he saw the lefty grey head pencil marks on various papers and looked at in constant motion, for a lively worm, and home. George cleared his throat, and the watches it with the expectation of devouring

want a introduction to the Seckitary o' State

ousiness hours I attend to business only. Day, Mr. Bushell. At five."

Sir Jonas went on making pencil notes on papers, and old George retired. He felt abashed and defeated, though he told himself that it was ridiculous to suppose that such a man as Sir Jonas could devote his business hours to the discussion and furtherance of other people's private affairs. But he half fancied his scheme pierced through already by the sagacious eyes o great financier, and he went hot and cold. whilst beneath his black kid gloves his palms perspired. He shook himself out of these foolish fears. but they came back again, and he had no appetite for the solid old-English dinner to which History repeats itself. Here was old down at a Strand restaurant at two o'clock in George traveling in young George's footstops, the afternoon. In the course of many years of prosperity he had learned to appre-It is only on a stage that a scounder, It is only on a stage that a scounder, finding himself frustrated can write and howl and shudder without attracting the attraction bravely and sipped coffee and read the papers without attraction bravely and sipped coffee and read the papers until half past four, and having paid his walked off solidly in the direction grate claret, and he took a bottle of the best and shudder without attracting the attraction of the bystanders. Whatever emotions he experienced, old George dared show nothing reckoning, walked off soldly in the direction of Grosvenor Square, looking the picture of Grosvenor Square, looking the picture of the square of Grosvenor Square, looking the picture of Grosvenor Square, looking the picture of the square of Grosvenor Square, looking the picture of the square of Grosvenor Square, looking the picture of the square of Grosvenor Square, looking the picture of the square of He timed himself so as to reach Sir Jonas's house at five o'clock to the minute, and being then he went into a meadow and cursed his admitted, was ushered into a shady library day—not eloquently, but with thoroughness. which had a scent of cigar smoke about it perceptible even to a smoker. Enter Sir Jonas with a cigar between his lips, his waistcoat a little open, and his feet in beaded slippers.

"An introduction to the Home Secretary?" oo said, as if renewing a conversation broken off half a minute before. " May I know your

object?"
"Why, yes," said George with a slow woodenness which looked like hesitance.
"You may, Sir Jones. I want to make an ppeal to the clemency o' the Crown.'

In whose behalf? "In the behalf of a young man hamed George Banks as was my private seckitary, Sir Jonas."

"Yes? What are the circumstances?" "He forged my name for three hundred pound," said old George, with a cold des-peration which made itself heard in his voice and seen in his face. "He was tried an found guilty, an' he was sentenced to two 'ears' imprisonment " " How long since ?"

" Six months ago."

he asked.

The wicked old schemer's voice quivered, had kept himselt we lin exercise all his life and the great financier asked himself, "A long, he was yet right glad of the passing commibus, for somehow his legs seemed to fail for being a semimentalist himself, and a im, and his feet were heavy on the dusty stern man of business into the bargain,

"Not the least i' the world," responded

so good, Sir Jonas, as gi'e me a minute to tell about it."
"Certainly," replied the great man. "Be

and joy, that the prison had any idea of his head, and a generally furtive aspect laid hold whereabouts. The revulsion awoke the dreamer, and he this told in his favor, for he seemed to the "He was a smart young feller," he said shakily and huskily, "an" he belonged to de-

lace. In time he drowed again, and the cent folks as was pretty well to do. He was dream came back precisely as before, and a clerk i'my office, and I took a fancy to again the revulsion of feeling awoke him. him an' promoted him to be my private sec-This time a dim little light of hope seemed retary. Then he got i' trouble with a money retary. to accompany his waking, and he struggled to get back to sleep to dream it over again. Very hard drove by him. At the time very hard drove by him. At the time I Everybody knows that if you dream a thing prosecuted I didn't know as he expected to be three times it is sure to come true. But able to replace the money in a week or two, though the dream haunted him whilst he but I've found out sence he had a good pros-

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

A SINGULAR INSTITUTION.

Among the peculiar institutions of Bombay s the pinjarapole, a refuge for sick and illall at once, as he tossed and tumbled, a very used animals, which is supported by Hindus sunbeam of intelligence seemed suddenly to and Parsees, who regard life as so sacred that warm and light his mind, and he sat up and clasped his hands together. Then he sank back with a sigh of comfort.

The he sank together the following description of this remarkable the following description of this remarkable. ack with a sigh of comfort.

He would make the fream prophetic! He establishment: The pinjarapole lies just off one of the main thorough ares; its high black Ay! and he saw his way to it. There was walls inclose an area of 2,000 square yards, wans include an area of 2,000 square yarius, to hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for him that night, but as no hope of sleep for ointed mind, the clouded horizon seemed to Hindu youth who conducted us over the It more and more, peace came back to him the place. It had somewhat the appearance of promised a return, at least and there was no attempt to make it pretty, there was no attempt to make it pretty, there was up with the first gleam of dawn, was cleanliness, crder, plenty of water, and a good supply of feed. A square in the center, good supply of feed. iers, packed a portmanteau, and started by inclosed by palings, was occupied by animals the earliest train for London. grass with evident satisfaction. Round the walls ran low houses and sheds, the manager brothers. They are revisition in manager and the veterinary surgeon living in the them, to keep peace—and as powerful in patcher direction as Schouvaloff or Bismarck. Opposite the door by which we entered was a well-barred cage, containing a couple of fierce They make loans to empires, and count their profits by tens of thousands.

The junior partner, Sir Jonas Crossus, which had a right to be who had been a cabinet minister, and was likely to take office again when the political air of being badly provided for. One longed wheel should turn, was a grey and worn looking man, with a face of singular kindness and honesty. He was a Jew by descent, and by habit a Christian. He was probably meant by nature for a philanthropist, but he was a financier on a large scale to hearing with of marriages that day, and he turned over a score of loaves before he reached the document for which he was running so much risk, and which was, if he had only known it, so absolutely useless. He had come prepared, when the come prepared, absolutely useless. He had come prepared, absolutely necessarily and latterly he had some prepared, absolutely necessarily and he time, and he had h and which was, if he had only known it, so absolutely useless. He had come prepared, and slipping from his pocket a thin metal crule, and a specially sharpened pen-knife, he a Jew and a financier and a post-shed. It had a coat like satin, a deep pensative, and as hard as nails in dant dew-lap, and soft, clear eyes. "What cabinet minister, and as hard as nails in dant develop, and soft, clear eyes. "What politics and business, he was a good hearted is it here for?" "It is blind," was the creature, and was even something of a senti-mentalist at bottom. mentalist at bottom.

Crosus Brothers were old George's Lonshed, with bars in front, were a number Then he feigned to go on reading don agents, and he was known to them as a dogs terribly afflicted with mange. As they sound and reputable business man, whose were very clean and had plenty of water, it affairs stood on a big basis. He had never is to be hoped that they enjoyed life after a some into personal contact with either of the fashion. Another collection of dogs appeared partners, but he was known to them in ad-vance, and he sent in his name with some from cruel treatment. We inquired for the reptiles and insects, but they "Sir Jonas will see, you sir," said an one of the country establishments along with elderly clerk, when Mr. Bushell had waited the cate, deer, pigs, sheep, poultry, monkeys, for a minute or two. George followed the snakes, and a large collection of vermin. The snakes, after a time, are taken into a Jonas at a knee table with docketed papers jungle or some uninhabited spot and set free. on it, and an ivory mouth pleced tube which an into the floor. The country man of business was a little surprised, was even a a man unlocked the door, and returned with little dashed, to see such trifling signs of work a handful of weevily grain from the bazaars,

> -The Polar regions are reckoned as extendothschild.
>
> "Day, sir," said Sir Jonas, nodding him indicates being 72,000 in Iceland, and 10, 000 in Greenland.

- The wool production of the United

-A new theory of the so called fascination and the sagacious eyes of the man, he re pented him of his coming, Sir Jonas made the snakes tongue, which the reptile keeps of birds by snakes is that the bird mistakes

great man glanced at him.

"My arrand, Sir Jonas," said the wooden George in his woodenest manner, "is not what you may call strictly on business. I possessors of less than one acre each, or only short 0.000 corns all told. It follows that the state of about 9 000 acres all told. It follows, then for the Home Department."

"Oh!" said Sir Jones. "Will you meet ion, the nearly 21,000,000 of Irish soil are me at five this afternoon, at my house? Ir owned by 32,614 persons.