## roseph's coat

BY DAVID CHRISTIE MURRAY. egistered in accordance with the Copyrigh

Act of 1875.]

"Very well," said Joe. "Put down the date and all that; now, My dear Syd or My dear Brother, or however you write to him."
"My dear old Syd," said George, sulkily Very well. My dear old Syd.—I have

schoolfellow and friend of yours, Joe Bushell I found him out almost by accident in New York. I told him that you had long since given him up for dead and buried. He was awfully glad to see a face from the old country, and especially a brother of yours. He was immensely surprised to learn who I was, and had no idea that the governor had married a second time. He has prospered very much out here, and thinks of running over with me to England, so that you must expect to see us both together You will remember the circumstances under he left home, and will understand what I am now about to ask. Pray say nothing about his projected visit. He is just coming over to see old places and one old -yourself He does not intend to make himself known to anybody else. me to put this to you with all needful strength, and of course in saying that I have said more than enough. He sends his most friendly regards. I will advise you of the probable time of our arrival."—All that down?

"Yes," said George, "it's all down." "Very well. Now you can go on with your own affairs."

'I hate letter-writing."

"All right," said Joe. "Close up as soon as you like."
"'I am,"' murmured George, scrawling

away, "my dear old Syd, your affectionate brother, - George." ' "Here's an envelope! address it." said Joe, almost hilarious in manner. He was thinking of Dinah all the time, thinking with bitter self upbraiding, and it needed

some bustle to keep his heart up.

'Sir Sydney Cheston, Bart.,'' murmured
George, as he dashed off the address in a sprawling and unclerky hand, Worley Hall,

Staffordshire, England.."
"That's right," said Joe, pulling at the bell. "Post that at once," he said, handing the letter to the maid who entered in answer to the summons. "And now," he cried, throwing hisself into a chair and looking across at George with a face of resolve, "I'm I wanted to go, and I couldn't make my mind up, and now I've done it,

because a promise is a promise, and the thing's arranged." The actual writer of the letter was no quite at ease, but he consoled himself with the reflection that Sir Syndey Cheston's amazement in Staffordshire could not greatly affect him in the United States. George wasn't going back to England, if he knew it. He sat half listening to his host's anticipations and plans, half-thinking out his own scheme for dropping his host at the right He was fully made up on that easily decided question of going back to England The fear of recognition was multiplied there a thousand fold; here it was minimised And, besides that, America was undoubtedly

But, in spite of these excellent reasons for avoiding England, he was doomed to go there; and a chain of events, which may be very briefly summarised, dragged him thither with a force beyond all his powers of resist ance. First link: - in the absence of his host at business, young George went gamb ling. Second link: - he lost, and was at-solutely cleaned out. Third: -he was com pelled by Joe's discovery to admit the truth Fourth : - Lee paid for his passage by the cars to New York, and for his passage by the steamer to Liverpool; and, detecting an extraordinary and inexplicable desire on the young man's part to cut and run, he watched him like a hen with one chicken, and gave

a better place to get on in than England.

him no opportunity for escapa.

So they landed in Liverpool together; and behold, whilst Joe was looking after the lug gage, young George made a bolt with a solitary portmanteau, which belonged not to himself but to his host; and Joe to him Great Britain alone. He was both mortified and bewildered, for it did not yet occur to him that this chance acquaintance was a pretender. He decided at last that his old chum Cheston kept a tight hand upon this younger brother, and that the lad was afraid o face him after his American extrava-

"But he must have thought poorly of me, said Joe, a little bitterly, "to fancy that I should split upon him."

## CHAPTER XXIII.

heart; but remorse is not penitonce, and he public mouth; but his causion was not suffered all the unboly pangs of one, and had none of the blessed pains of the other. He little timid as to the possible result of his was not even safe from detection; and it is own share in the matter. When once the possible that if he had been, the fires of young lawyer had written to Dinah, apprising conscience would have burned less dreadfully. He was getting to be old, and, what with his result of delay, he found time hang heavily troubles and advancing age, he began to suffer pains and disabilities suffer pains and disabilities which were hard any of his old acquaintaints just at to bear. Eating and drinking used to be went into Birmingham, and, putting up at an logsont and were so no longer. To a lotel there, awaited the doctor's decisive pleasant, and were so no longer. To a stupid man like old George it is hard to lose the pleasures of the table; much harder than for another who has sources of enjoyment outside the range of the coarser senses He had been used to work hard and to sleep soundly, and now work had no relish people, he felt wiser after the event than he

mouth, staring at the fire, a knock came to the outer door, and a minute later his housekeeper followed her own tap, and came in with a visiting card pinched between John went back to Wrethedale, leaving in finger and thumb in a corner of her apron. A gentleman to see you, sir," said Mrs.

Bullus.
.. Show him in," said the old man, and took the eard uninterestedly. It fell from his fingers as he read "Mr. John Keen, Soli-

citor. Wrethedale." He groped darkly on the floor to recover it John Keen entered; and the old man, still feeling blindly for the card, looked no at him, say much. with a face reddened by stooping, and lack

lustre eyes.
... Good day, Mr. Busheli," said John, with

formal politeness.
George ceased his blind search for the card and sat up, breathing somewhat quickly
"Good day, Mr. Keen. Take a cheer. To

what am I indebted -- ?" "I do not suppose you will find me a wel come visitor, Mr. Bushell, when you know my business. You may remember a state ent made to you with regard to the identity

of your late private secretary."
"Eh?" said old George. "Say that again ?' On the day on which you gave George Banks into custody," said John slowly and distinctly, "you received a visit from he lady who was supposed to be his sister. Old George said nothing, not having it i him to say anything just then; but he glared at his visitor with fishlike eyes, in

which there was no speculation. "She tolyou the real nature of the relationship be tween them, and you professed to disbelieve "I said it was a pack o' lies," said the miserable old rascal, "an' I say so now."
"Very well, Mr. Bushell," said John, bus iness like. "I am a lawyer, as you I am engaged by Mrs. Joseph Busholl to pro ceed again t you for the recovery of her rights, and I am in a position to prove her claim. Here," said John, producing a pocket nock and leisurely opening it, 'is a copy of

teath was, in the absence of her husband, spoken to, or had clearly recalled to mind egally hers, and is still legally hers. There the cause of the mischief which had come a no difficulty in the world as to the com. upon him. pleteness of the proof and I should advise, you to make a judicious surrender."

though his heart was muffed and his head on cool at all, that ain't. Is it? Oh dear me,

the very strangest news to give you. I am from poor dear Sir Ro er's torturer in man, and to make a home for Dinah, writing this letter under the roof of an old chief perhaps you would be surprised to how had be fulfilled the promise? ow had be fulfilled the promise?—how clung to the hope? Bitter questions, that brought sad answers in an echo—how?

Watson church?" The old man's jaw dropped; he haid a hand on each sum of his chair and the haid a hand on each sum of his chair and the haid a hand on each sum of his chair and the haid a hand on each sum of his chair and the haid a hand on each sum of his chair and the haid a hand on each sum of his chair and the haid a hand on each sum of his chair and the haid a hand on each sum of his chair and the haid a hand on each sum of his chair and the promise?—how had be fulfilled the promise?—how clung to the hope? Bitter questions, that brought sad answers in an echo—how? hair, and made as if to rise; but his limbs perhaps, yet still a fair handful

> The sexton entered, twiring up the both hands, and looking amazingly uncom the fool, few of us who have nothing to contribute to the shaded by The sexton entered, twirling his hat in coward. fortable.

ook at the register of marriages?"

out to get a pint of beer?" "Yes, sir," said the sexton; " that's the gentleman sir."

would burst it. But he was desperate despite these fears. "I swear it," he stam mered, groping blindly. "It's a pack o' lies!" He had only time once more to feel, with when down he went with a crash, striking tragedy! the back of his head against the fender. John fell upon him, dragged him on to the hearthrug, tore off his stock, and, with one nervous effort, ripped his shirt oven from collar to wai-tband. The old man had been

drinking again; and the lawyer, seeing a carafe of water on the table, seized it, and began vigorously to splash at George's face.
"Ring the bell," he said to the sexton. The man, who was horrified at the result of his identification of old George, fumbled at the hell pull for nearly half a minute before he could command his trembling fingers when he rang such a peal as brought the lousekeeper in with a rush and an whirl of petticoats. "Your master has fallen down in a fit." said John, still dashing water into the unconscious face. "Send for

doctor, without a minute's loss of time." Mrs. Bullus rushed from her room, creaming "Jane I" and, the maid appear ng, dispatched her, with a flea in her ear fled weeping and breathless, and by good hap being recognized by the medical

George's selidly made frame. John Keen pool. Cheston about the same time found lifted at one side and the sexton at the other. The surgeon took the patient's head and the housekeeper his legs, and in this order they stumbled up-stairs with him, and laid him down. Then all but the surgeon cod the surge the busekeeper his legs, and in this order they stumbled up-stairs with him, and laid him down. Then all but the surgeon and the hands.

Everything leads to something, and the butler's skilled man's verdict, and by and by it came. Whether severe or slight the doctor was not whether severe or slight the doctor was not relation to this history.

The h, at this hour, in prison for for them but to turn back again, Joe the latter than hour, in prison for for them but to turn back again, Joe the latter than hour, in prison for for them but to turn back again, Joe the latter than hour, in prison for for them but to turn back again, Joe the latter than hour, in prison for for them but to turn back again, Joe the latter than hour, in prison for for them but to turn back again, Joe the latter than hour, in prison for for the same leaving the hours of the birth of his son, and it need scarcely be said that it was his first news of the birth of his son, and it need scarcely be said that it was his first news of the birth of his son, and it need scarcely be said that it was his first news of the birth of his son, and it need scarcely be said that it was his first news of the birth of his son, and it need scarcely be said that it was his first news of the birth of his son, and it need scarcely be said that it was his first news of the birth of his son, and it need scarcely be said that it was his first news of the birth of his son, and it need scarcely be said that it was his first news of the birth of his son, and it need scarcely be said that it was his first news of the birth of his son, and it need scarcely be said that it was his first news of the birth of his son, and it need scarcely be said that it was his first news of the birth of his son, and it need scarcely be said that it was his first news of the birth of his son, and the sturdy 'trang' to own a look of the hiddor's house in any future visits he might had been determined by a complete the hiddor's house in any future visits he might had been determined by a co amazement and chagrin, was left to face him down. Then all but the surgeon and the hands. ome.

> to the sexton, "that it will be a great deal ceived intelligence of a revival in old George, wi er in you to hold your tongue than to talk and was bent on taking advantage of it, if about these things. "I shan't say nothink," replied the sex-

her of Mr. Bushell's sudden illness and its on his hands. He had no desire to encounter which were hard any of his old acquaintances just then, so he opinion on the case. He blamed himself for the precipitancy with which he had brought old George to bay, and told himself that he might much more reasonably have explained

Things went on for two or three weeks in pretty much the old fashion when one day, as he sat alone in his private room, pipe in on his own initiative brought in the old have known von appropriate room? I should have known von appropriate room? sician from the neighboring great town. The physician was no more sanguine than the surgeon; and, after lingering for a week. structions with the surgeon to wire to him in case of any decisive alteration either way. Being arrived at home, he hastened to inform Dinah of his return, and she called upon him within an hour of her receipt of his message He laid her marriage certificate in her hands and explained the whole result of his journey Dinah turned pale and shook a little as sh read through the document, but she did not

'It was a pity I didn't know o' this before. "It was a pusy I dud a mass."
That was all.
A great pity," said John, commiscrating ler troubies. "But there is no doubt of the commiscration of the commisc Mr. Keen.' all her troubies. "But there is no doubt of your legal title to the property, and no doubt

that you will get it."

She took the certificate home and showed t to Ethel, who kissed her for sole congratu lation. It was not easy for Ethel to congratulate Dinah upon anything yet, though she read the mother's heart and sympath sed with her. The days went on, and nodecisive news came of old George's state. John learned that he had re overed partial consciousness, and that he seemed to have a half-memory of the fac that some trouble had befallen him But out of this state, so the doctor's letters said, he had slipped back again into complete blivion, and it was, and would be for a lone time to come, impossible to rouse him to the tiscussion of any affairs, however important hey might be. The doctor's letters, indeed ugh cautiously expressed, seemed to lead

ever attend to business any more. In course of time that view was partly disproved, bu or the present there was nothing to do bu The criminal's sentence had more han half its time to run, and before he could e decided in some way.

to the conclusion that old George would

So on that side affairs necessarily stood over. Far away in New York the releases convict had encountered his father, and had convict had encountered his father, and had cone away to San Francisco with him, and adjeturned to England against his will toplew Joseph and Miss Dinah Banks, sol emnised at Waston church. Whatever pro perty your brother Joseph possessed at his out him, and had finally deserted him is Liverpool before old George was fit to b.

Never in his life had Joe Bushell felt so forlorn as when he stood alone, after the "Oh!" said old George with a heavy jeer, lapse of more than five and twenty years, English soil; not even when for the was whirling "you'd adviso mato mek a pidicious surrender, would you? That ain't ness decscended on him aboard ship, of the rainy evening. There were resolves in him then, and high o!"

\*\* Mr. Bushell," said John, copying a line

all failings and follies behind him, to be a

refused to obey him, his face turned purple, and of what use was it to him? He ought nd the veins in his temple stood out like to have known better than to believe in that gords. 'Excuse me for a moment,' said story of Dinah's marriage. He ought to John, and, rising, he opened the door. have returned to England — he ought ohn, and, rising, he opened the door. have returned to England — he ought rang the bell, and returned. "How long," in his own chamber; weeping, with such recome this way," he called to someone outacted like a man, and not like a cad and a

There are few of us who have not played the fool, few of us who have nothing to confeed marriages?"

That's the gentleman who came to Washok at the register of marriages?"

That's the gentleman, sir," said the sexmethed a heart that ought to liling to drink with?—the gentleman who mouleft alone in the vestry whilst you went out of get a pint of beer?"

The fool, few of us who have nothing to confeed by devolt penitence, nothing to have scourged out of us who have nothing to be ab-olved by devolt penitence, nothing to have scourged out of us by human forgiveness. But there are not many of us who for a quarter of a century have crushed a heart that ought to have been happy. And Joe was a good in the with?—the gentleman who mouleft alone in the vestry whilst you went out of get a pint of beer?"

The fool, few of us who have nothing to confeed by devolted by devolt penitence, nothing to have scourged out of us by human forgiveness. But there are not many of us who for a quarter of a century have crushed a heart that ought to have been happy. And Joe was a good into the weiter, said with ill-assumed vivacity. "Here! We'll leave it with the waiter. Get the best dinner you can as soon as you can. You'll order dure, von't you? Here! We'll leave it with the waiter. Get the best dinner you can as soon as you can. You'll order dure, von't you? We'll leave it with the waiter. Get the best dinner you can as soon as you can. You'll order dure, von't you?

"Is this the gentleman who gave you a been happy. And Joe was a good in the with ill assumed vivacity." "Here! We'll leave it with the waiter. Get the best dinner you can as soon as you can. You'll order dure, von't you?

"A contract have said before, though without any gentleman to a private room." And, Cheestou, you'll order dure, von't you?

I have said before, though without any gentleman to a private room." And, Cheestou, you'll order dure, von't you?

I have said before, though without any gentleman to a private room." I have said before, though without any gentleman to a good one." he was crushed a heart w "Is this the gentleman who came to Wascon church a week or two ago, and asked to
devout penitence, nothing to have scourged shilling to drink with?—the gentleman whom you left alone in the vestry whilst you went ready to do a kindness, and never, in spite of "Certainly," said the baronet, with a left alone in the vestry wintst you went to get a pint of beer?"

"Yes, sir," said the sexton; "that's the ntleman sir."

"Yes, sir," said the sexton; "that's the ntleman sir."

"I'll go into the smoking-room. You will find me there."

"Yery good," said Joe. "Dinner for two in a private room. Have a fire, and there's a Heaven above us, I neverset eyes the man afore in all my born days. I'll tek the my days afore a the my double the smoking-room. You the change of destination and the change of the my double the smoking-room. You the change of the my double the my double the smoking-room. The change of destination and the change of the min my double the smoking-room. The change of destination and th your own affairs."

"Oh, that's enough for a letter," cried the young man with an air of disgusted fatigue; o' the man afore in all my born days. I'll tek something quite outside the sphere of commy oath on it." A judgment? A sudden judgment from Heaven he had invoked so wickedly? His head swam round and round; he felt with wandering hands for a upport, and found none, there were splash- some selfish comfort there, perhaps. If he es of alternate ink and fire in the silver mist could get a signt of her, only for a moment, which shut out everything about him; his and could breathe to his own heart the mufiled heart strove to heat as if the strugge words, "I have been as faithful all these years to your remembrance as you have been to mine," it might have something of a balm in it for the sore future which he saw before nim. But, look at it as he might, life seemed an access of his pains and terrors, that he apoor business. Tragedy, and folly, and had anew defied the threatened judgment, commonplace! Commonplace, folly, and

> S) he stood like an alien on English ground, and wished himself back in his western home Yet, being where he was, he must go again. on and fulfi! his purpose. He wrote from Liverpool that night to Cheston, saying nothing yet of Master George's desertion of him, and without waiting for an answer, he started.

deuce—: ne begau again, and again ne failed. "What in the name of——!"
There was nothing big enough to conjure with in a case like this. It was the most be

Joe's cigar was out again, but "State of the failed of t wildering and amazing thing he had ever effort to relight it.
met with in his lifetime. "My dear old "In time the boy's good hap being recognized by the medical lines with in the interime. May dear old man was followed by him. For what with Syd!" and "your affectionate brother. breathlessness and the terror and resentment George!" The audacity of the confounded breathlessness and the terror and resentment George!" The audacity of the confounded nspired by the housekeeper's unprovoked thing! Who ever heard of the like? And exert more than a sister's influence and Hadden to the like in the like? The doctor app ared, somewhat winded, for he was a man of rather pursy habit, and unlike the truth. Was Joe Bushell alive after used to the display of pedestrian power. all, and had he met some impostor out there gradually. He is, at this hour —— In-who was trading on a good name, and who censed as he was against the deserter of his he was a man of rather pursy habit, and unused to the display of pedestrian power.

Whillo, Keen!" he gasped. "You here? What's the matter?" He was kne-ling by old George's unconscious figure before the question was answered.

"I brought him very disturbing private news," said John, kneeing beside the surgeon and spoaking in a low tone, "and he has dispatched, and the two had a day at cross had a fit over it."

"We must get him to bed," said the surgeon and spoaking in a bear of the stay at a Birmingham hotel, drove over to his? Weeks went by, and he heard no more of the matter on the professed to ba a brother of his? Weeks went by, and he heard no more of the matter on the how. Joe's fictitious gaiety about the dinner had hardened him, and his knowledge of the bitter and undeserved agonies poor Dinah had endured made the loyal-hearted private and followed his telegram. But the two lows a lie to be the man bear of the bitter and undeserved agonies poor Dinah had endured made the loyal-hearted young lawyer almost pitless to the man bear dispatched, and the two had a day at cross fore him. And yet, Joe was not like an unpurposes. The returned exile, leaving his traps at a Birmingham hotel, drove over to his friend's house, and learned from the so did the face John leoked at. Yet it was he took a high tone with the laudlord, and and with some difficulty got under old batter that Sir Sydney had gone to Liver his clear duty to tell the tale at once, and George's selidly made frame. John K-en pool. Cheston about the same time found bring this man home to a sense of his

had the thinnest ghost of an idea of the neglect. or I sappose I needu't tell you," said John other's importance to him. John had re

that were possible. The two were alone, at the fall of a dismul ton.

John had no other reason for secrecy than from each other in a big coffse-room, when The terrible text ate deep into old George's his desire to keep Dinah's name out of the in burst a man who glared round in the dusk of the place and went out again.

"I beg pardon," said the stranger, rising and advancing a step towards John Keen. "Can you tell me if that was Sir Sydney

"It was," said John; and the stranger made a dash after the baronet.

"Cheston!" he shouted down the corri-

dor.

Back came the impetuous Cheston.

' Who's that? "Don't you know me? 'asked the wan-

derer.
"Let's bave a look at you," cried the baronet, dragging him to a window. "By gad, stonate that John was dumb before him. It is you after all! Bushelt, old man, I'm The punishment had come home, then glad to see you. Confound it all, I am glad Why, Joe, old boy, we'd given you up for eves were a little dim and his throat was ness!

insky.
"It does a fellow's heart good," said Joe, 'to see an old face again. How are you."

All this was in John Keen's hearing, and he young lawyer sat like one petrified. Here, then, was the wicked wanderer back again! John had his theories, like other people; and from the moment when Dinah had completed ner story he had made up his mind about errant Joe. There was no doubt in his mind that young George got the black patch in his heart from his father. A better woman than Dinah John confessed that he had never known. He would and could believe no ill of her; but he had a great faith in breed, and he believed that out of an honest father and mother came honest children, and no ther. Thus, Dinah being in John's eyes paragon of womanly virtues, and her son being an arrant rascal, it was necessary to suppose that the lad inherited his villany from his father. And the father had undoubtedly been a bad lot. He had left his wife widowed all this time, had never written to her, never troubled his head about her, and, after inveigling her into a secret marriage to begin with, he had with low cunning carried way her marriage lines, and left her to pear the burden of a most undeserved and

bitter shame. So John Keen, when the first shock of amazement was over, made no ado about the matter, but, rising in cold wrath, he walked nietly along the room and tapped Joe on the

shoulder. " Forgive me, Sir Sydney, for interrupting

or two. I'm engaged just now.,'
"One moment," said John. "Are von. Joe, "the son of Joseph Bushell and the nepnew of George Bushell?"

"I am," said Joe, speaking somewhat enough ardly, since he recognized hostility in the lat

" I did." said Joe. " What then?"

vour earliest convenience."

Cheston stared from one to the other. "May I ask you who you are and what your business is?" inquired Joe,

which (as perhaps you know) Daniel Banks and his daughter Dinah have retired."

tence? We might compel my uncle to join in an appeal to the authorisies. Talk it over prison-like, and they reminded him of recent dangerous, and they made their way out of

"there's something in this—something that two Will you do this?"

I ought to know at once. You know this "I will do what I can," said John.

make your communication?"

Ten minutes," said John in answer. "Very well," said Joe; and atthat moment the waiter entered. "Waiter, show this

was made the repository of a secret. A lady for whom I entertained a profound respect about them; and if ever he played again came to me, and on very weighty grounds at any game of mingled chance and skill, it confessed that the name she bore was not her should not be in a game in which he was the young man who passed as her brother secured is exchange for it only a single port-

Joe's cigar went out, and he arose with a bably be useless to him.

A day or two before the voyage ended, trembling hand to relight it. John went on.
"The lady's husband had deserted her it is no business of mine to express an opin ion on the case, and I will deal only with the I have left you to fancy Sir Sydney's sensations on reading the letter of his soldisant promised, on their parting, to send her the you've acted like a brick to me, and I'm "The same the sensation of the case, and I will accept the same that a same with a certain air of graceful regret and reluctance, place. "You've acted like a brick to me, and I'm "The same that a same with a certain air of graceful regret and reluctance, place." tions on reading the letter of his should have brother. Cheston's imagination, n ver very vivid, left him helpless at this time, and he vivid, left him helpless at this time, and he knew nothing of the law. She believed that the customer for a younger brother to deal with the customer for a younger brother the customer for a younger brother to deal with the customer for a younger brother the c was at first unable to conceive any possible knew nothing of the law. She believed that circumstances under which it could have the warriage. Her child and annulled her marriage. Her child and annulled her was a country to see the count orance of his father's existence."

Of course, of course," said Joe; and produced a hundred dollar bill, which George rancid bacon.

authority, endured supreme unhappiness. The boy went to the bad-rot at once, but

yet certain; but there was concussion of the John Keen was staying in the same lawyer hard; but he went on sternly, spurred brain, and old George would see to no busi botel with the returned wanderer. Neither of by his partisanship for the suffering wo ness, howsoever important, for a while to them had ever seen the other, and neither man and his anger at the husband's base

tried, and sentenced to two years' immison-

on a sudden into weeping so wild and pas cusing face had meant as it haunted his gay maid—harmless, as harmless as a dove, as u fitted to fight the world as a dove to anusually so for the season of the year; and

voice. ng creature only -a young lady to whom the discovery of his crime."

The listener groaned anew, and once more ohn paused. "Go on, said Joe; "go on."

with the gift of a shilling te get a drink of beer-and I confronted him with the sexton cried out thathe had never seen the man before, and fell lown in a fit, from the effects "Hillo, Keen!" said Cheston. "Didn't your arrival may alter the complexion of affairs altogether. Mrs. Bushell, your wife. of which he has not yet recovered. His ill is strongly averse to any prosecution of Mr Seorge Bushell, and I do not think that any legal proceedings would have been necessary any case. As a matter of fact, we had hole enough upon him without having recourse to

"And my son is in jail?"

Yes.' " Mr. Keen?"

"Yes?"

in his own chamber; weeping, with such reneed to shed.

## CHAPTER XXIV.

cigar, motioned John to a chair and waited opinion, and he was keenly sensitive to for him. He read enmity in the young man's opinion, and ne was keenly sensitive to himself, even when he manner, and was at a loss at present for the was out of the way of them. To do him round of it.

"A few months back," began John, "I had been to gamble. Euchre and poker own, and that she was not as everybody who learner. And now, to get away from that knew her supposed her to be, a single wo importunate companion of his, he had been man, but had long been married, and that compelled to sacrifice his luggage, and had manteau, the contents of which would pro-

George had approached his traveling com-

panion. "I say, Bushell," he had said, with a cer

got cashed by the steward. So that, in spite "In time the boy's grandmother—supposed of extravagances, he was not quite forlorn tramp, smelling at the liquor with a discovery all except her daughter to be his mother when he holted from Joe's overwhelming tasteful look, "I shall smash another lamp by all except her daughter to be his mother when he bolted from Joe's overwhelming

He did not care about going to any first rate hostel here, lest Joe should find him again, and so he went to a third or fourth rate house, and laid there perdu for a time until he took a high tone with the landlord, and troubling the wrong sort of man, that remittances he expected would inevitably lence." reach him on the morrow, and that he—
young George—would never again use the
it," said the sturdy tramp, who alone of the letters had been somehow delayed, went out to see, and forgot to go back again. Joe Bushell's portmanteau and its contents "He was engaged," said John, "as Mr. scarcely paid the landlord; but they consoled ing this, begged leave to appropriate it. "Did he know it?" Joe asked almost ury of a bottle of wine. Then, on the more that the lux of a bottle of wine. know it. But when the news of his arrest through that ceremony, and, being nearly came to his mother's ears, 810 made an ap cleaned out by this time and in a mood of and blood to prison and disgrace. He drove mood also cleared, and he went along with credence to her story. The young man was side public house, and left the people impressed with the grandeur of his manners. Eleven months of that term, or and his affability. He wandered on, without nearly, have yet to expire."

"My God!" Joe grouned again, and burst spirits, sometimes gloomy. Days went by. suited his condition. But as yet no very "Her frend advised her that the loss of day later he landed at the workhouse.
Exercificate was no bar to her right to Now, this was something of a blow for day, and he went on aimless and at ease. A

died possessed of; and for the sake of her of it, notwithstanding. When he walked son - to save him from future temptation and mise y—sie determined to attempt to book of enquiry his demand for workhouse establish her claim. As a first step she went to Waston Church, and discovered that the actual to the desk. It was a tribute to his gentifity. register of her marriage had been abstracted." Many a gentleman had come to this condition before. Why not again in his case? He "Abstricted; stolen. Suspicion fell upon telt a certain stoicism, too, which seemed to Mr. George Bushell, as the only person who do him credit under the circumstances had known the secret of the marriage, and the only prion except your wife and son who in him which is perhaps only the property of was interested in it. It was discovered that the born pretender; and it was so distinct he had been to the church to examine the that he felt an absolute pride in flaunting register-that he had sent out the sexton before the accustomed official eyes the pover ty of one so evidently cultured and well-bred. He was audience as well as dramatist and Before he hid fairly heard the charge, he player, and the situation was certainly sin gular.

Yet, when he had answered the official inquiries, had received his ticket and got into the street again, he seemed to feel that everybody knew he was going to the work. house, and he found that sensation oppres sive. The policeman had directed him he dodged about by streets to avoid observa line." tion until he lost the way, and had to ask anew to be directed. He chose to nut the and soe, speaking someware enough upon him without naving recourse to question to an old woman; and she in questioner's tone.

"You ran away from home in eighteen fifty?"

"My father," said Joe, looking up with an away raised her hands and said, "Eh, dear started in partnership. Their litck varied awful face, "made no will."

"He made no will, and in your absence to put the question to an old woman; and she in an laid down his route, and the two man fish to home meat is not a saver raised her hands and said, "Eh, dear the dirty grey man had not boasted in vain, for he knew the road and its inhabitants; deceased.

his brother inherited everything. That has was not altogether pleasant. He was evident- but it was not always that George's tale suc-

baseness in telling this young man's story, younger wanderer's spirit a sort of dull con-Can a writer, any more than other people, tentment in the life to which he had fallen. touch pitch and not be defiled? But let me | He told his tale so often that the true story "Do me a favor. Dine with Cheston task your impatience and control my own became mythical and the lie looked true.

him.
"I beg your pardon, I am sure," said his old comrade.

This way, if you please."

John fellowed, and Joe led the way into his bedroom. There he lit the gas, started a those who liked to stand well in the general erger motioned John to a chair and waited.

John fellowed, and Joe led the way into his bedroom. There he lit the gas, started a those who liked to stand well in the general erger motioned John to a chair and waited.

John fellowed, and Joe led the way into his lorden with the general cross and looked down again; and those who liked to stand well in the general reverse a word they said until the norter had bet that he would not only dine with the commander-in chief but also borrow ten pounds from him:—Riding up gallantly to not only dine with the commander in chief but also borrow ten pounds from him:—Riding up gallantly to not only dine with the commander in chief but also borrow ten pounds from him:—Riding up gallantly to not only dine with the commander in chief but also borrow ten pounds from him:—Riding up gallantly to not only dine with the commander in chief but also borrow ten pounds from him:—Riding up gallantly to not only dine with the commander in chief but also borrow ten pounds from him:—Riding up gallantly to not only dine with the way in the w never a word they said, until the porter had disappeared, when one began to sing an un disappeared, when one began to sing an un-refined ditty of Moll and Meg, unmeet for and asked if the Duke of Wellington lived ladies. Now, our young nobleman, Astrea there. "Yes, sir," said the orderly "here redux, had never been particular to a shade is an aide-de-camp coming. May I ask your of morals in a song until now; but he spoke out, after a while, with a very effective out, after a while, with a very effective

sing it?"

sort of thing offensive.' 'It ain't quite the thing," said another;

tin cans of a tepid liquor which smelt of "If things goes on like this," said the sturdy

or two, or rip my togs up, or do summat, an' get another month. They feeds you ten have it; are on the spike. "And pray what may the spike be?" asked George with a mighty condescending

air. "Why, this is the spike, my noble sports the dirty grey man. "Them as was born in a pig sty can put up with a dirty litter, but

see that you're a cut above this."
"Ye es," returned George, "I hope that's assured him with a lofty air that he was tolerably apparent. This is my first exper-You needn't be so blooming proud about

George's tone and aspect. "It's no particular dand glee when others were desponding.

smelling liquid, and the dirty grey man, see-George Bushell's private secretary, and he signed the name George Bushell to a check if r three hundred pounds. Had he known it, he was legally entitled to the name, and it, he was legally entitled to the name, and it, he was legally entitled to the name, and it, he was legally entitled to the name, and it, he was legally entitled to the name, and it, he was legally entitled to the name, and it, he was legally entitled to the name, and it, he was legally entitled to the name, and it, he was legally entitled to the name, and it, he was legally entitled to the name, and it, he was legally entitled to the name, and it is wet," said the dirty man; "an that's about all you can say for it. But it is a comfort, too, when a cove's as cold inside as I am."

"An ocean is a large with the land of the dirty in the way. The was legally entitled to the name, and it is wet," said the dirty in the way. It is a bout all you can say for it. But it is a comfort, too, when a cove's as cold inside as I am."

"An ocean is a large with the way."

"An ocean is a large with the dirty in the way."

"An ocean is a large with the dirty way."

"An ocean is a large with the dirty way."

"An ocean is a large with the dirty way."

"An ocean is a large with the dirty way."

"An ocean is a large with the dirty way."

"An ocean is a large with the dirty way."

"An ocean is a large with the dirty way."

"An ocean is a large with the dirty way."

"An ocean is a large way."

"An ocean is a l a fair dinner, and even indulged in the lux In this particular workhouse the ordeal by "Did he know it?" Joe asked almost ury of a notifie of wide. Then, wildly. There was a gleam of light there. row, he discharged his bill, seeing no way to answered John. "He did not leave the house without having first gone tramps were all bundled to bed immediately the seeing no way to leave the house without having first gone tramps were all bundled to bed immediately the seeing no way to leave the house without having first gone to be a seeing no way to leave the house without having first gone tramps were all bundled to bed immediately the seeing no way to leave the house without having first gone to be a seeing no way to leave the house without having first gone to be a seeing no way to leave the house without having first gone to be a seeing no way to leave the house without having first gone to be a seeing no way to leave the house without having first gone to be a seeing no way to leave the house without having first gone to be a seeing no way to leave the house without having first gone to be a seeing no way to leave the house without having first gone to be a seeing no way to leave the house without having first gone to be a seeing no way to leave the house without having first gone to be a seeing no way to leave the house without having first gone to be a seeing no way to leave the house without having first gone to be a seeing no way to leave the house without having first gone to be a seeing no way to leave the house without having first gone to be a seeing no way to leave the house without having first gone to be a seeing no way to leave the house without having first gone to be a seeing no way to leave the house without having first gone to be a seeing no way to leave the house without having first gone to be a seeing no way to leave the house without having first gone to be a seeing no way to leave the house without having first gone to be a seeing no way to leave the leave the leave the house without having first gone to be a seeing no way to leave the leave the leave the leave the leave the le after supper in a common room like an ill peal to the prosecutor. She laid bare to him the secret of the prisoner's birth, and implored him not to send one of his own flesh and the sun shining out with gaiety, his her from his house insultingly, and refused sense of exhibitation. He fed at a little way cluthes. Perforce he accepted the professionwould honestly have preferred to sleep in his el's dictum, and undressed; and having, in pursuance of the pauper's orders, rolled his clothes into a bundle with the shirt outside, aim or prospect, sometimes in absurd good he got into bed and lay there in the early darkness, indisposed to sleep, and compelled on a sudden into weeping so which and pass and his last copper was gone, his control was not so miserable as he deserved to be, and collar had grown more than equivocal in the was not so miserable as he deserved to be, as punishment had come home, then—aspect; his heard had affected a stubbly and his chief misery sprang from a bitter reand his last copper was gone; his shirt cuffs for awhile to face his own reflections. He was not so miserable as he deserved to be. sentment to the world, which even now seemthe all; and yet it was not his to bear, but their good origin, in their dustiness and seedi-ed to his own mind to have used him ill. the all; and yet it was not his to bear, but their good origin, in their dustiness and seed the control of their good origin, in their dustiness and seed the control of their good origin, in their dustiness and seed the control of their good origin, in their dustiness and seed the control of their good origin, in their good origin, in their dustiness and seed the control of the control of their good origin, in their dustiness and seed the control of their good origin, in their dustiness and seed the control of things had come with him to this lowebb, it memory all these years. The little, innocent, terrible physical troubles had been encoun was full time to think of means for taking the on the second floor." the bell? Well, I am glad to see you."

Shaking hands the while, Cheston shouted gift with hawks—and he had left her to this he wandered on in a dull contentment, cross—his bread whilst people of his own flesh and he wandered on in a dull contentment, cross—his bread whilst people of his own flesh and he wandered on in a dull contentment, cross—his bread whilst people of his own flesh and he wandered on in a dull contentment, cross—his bread whilst people of his own flesh and he wandered on in a dull contentment, cross—his bread whilst people of his own flesh and he wandered on in a dull contentment, cross—his bread whilst people of his own flesh and he wandered on in a dull contentment, cross—his bread whilst people of his own flesh and he wandered on in a dull contentment, cross—his bread whilst people of his own flesh and he wandered on in a dull contentment, cross—his bread whilst people of his own flesh and he wandered on in a dull contentment, cross—his bread whilst people of his own flesh and he wandered on in a dull contentment, cross—his bread whilst people of his own flesh and he wandered on in a dull contentment, cross—his bread whilst people of his own flesh and he wandered on in a dull contentment, cross—his bread whilst people of his own flesh and he wandered on in a dull contentment, cross—his bread whilst people of his own flesh and he wandered on his wandered on his own flesh and he wandered on his wandered his tide again. His frther and Dinah were well to odo, and it was a shame that he should beg of the world? his welcome at top of his cheery voice. Joe's terrible fate! Incredible crucky and base-ed only now and then with a sense of the blood lived in comfort. Yet, they were lost to for the first time in his life; and, near arose from his knees.

"Tell me," he said brokenly, "whatever ing a town, he retired behind a haystack, ing a town, he retired behind a haystack, hown him; and how to trace his relatives by water, what capes would you pass?"

"Wouldn't go by water. Editors always John spoke again, but in a changed coice.

took on his waistcoat, ioned in up into of turning over fruitless projects in his out.

took on his waistcoat, ioned in up into of turning over fruitless projects in his out.

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a bundle, buttoned his coat, and ran the of turning over fruitless projects in his out. two shillings; and on this he supped, uatil the clanging of a great beli mingled lept, and breakfasted. In the next town an with his dreams, and last night's professional old slop-seller made a bargain with him—two pauper turned up again to awaken the amashillings and a patched workman's suit for teur contingent. Then he dressed, and presteur contingent. coat and trousers, a cloth up and a shilling ently, to his huge disgust, found himself for his hat. The five shillings lasted him a face to face with a big pile of stones, on a mines and pistol bails." raised stone bench, with instructions from the certificate was no bar to her right to whatever property her hasuand's father had him; but he got a certain mental luxury out porter, producing a sample handful. George all the fun. went to work reluctantly and clumsily, and hammered with small result upon the stones. stiffening of his muscles. After five hours' who expressed unqualified disapproval of it in regard to both quality and quantity, but forbore to detain him for the completion of his task. George, with a certain meek gran-

> into the streets of the town. The dirty grey man crawled alongside. "Which way do you think of going?" he "I don't know," said George haughtily.

' Not yours " I know the line along between here and Chester," said the grey man, unabashed by this rebuff: "and I can put you up to the coves to go to. A bloke as can patter like you can ought to make a tidy thing of it if hither, and the road was plain enough; but he's only along with somebody as knows the

deur, accepted and consumed his morning'

George capitulated. "Where are you going?"

"I have something for your private ear, sir, which I will trouble you to listen to at can remember."

I have something for your private ear, sir, which I will trouble you to listen to at can remember."

I have something for your private ear, been a matter of common talk ever since I ly a gentleman, or the old woman would not have been astonished.

Creded in melting the heart of his listener. This nicely assorted pair kept, however, from This nicely assorted pair kept, how
I have felt over and over again a sort of
the workhouse, and there fell

of the rainy evening.

"My name is John Keen, and I am a solicitor. I reside at Wrethedale, the town to which (as perhaps you know) Daniel Banks

"Do me a favor. Dine with Cheston take your impatients all to the followed there is a little further. I shall have pointed a moral a little further. I shall have "Cheston," said Joe, looking a little grey, with Cheston. I will join you in an hour or experiences. After some looking up and some towns double quick, lest the police I ought to know at once. You know this gentleman?" indicating John.

"I will do what I can," said John.

Joe opened the door, and John Keen walked out of the room. His opinion of the still staring from one to the other. "But what the dickens is it all about, Bushell?"

"That I have to learn." To a do this?

"I will do what I can," said John.

Joe opened the door, and John Keen of noise that he was borne down by the watched weather from town to town, until the exigence of his own summons, and fallen grandee grew sick and desperate. They crawled along, fkirting the borders of the was shaken. And whilst he dined with down, he found an iron bell-pull and tugged should be set upon their heels. Workhouse fare what the dickers is it all about, Bushell?"

it was shaken. And whilst he dined with 'That I have to learn." Joe answered.

Sir Sydney, and, to that genial man's amaze mount of a small door round a principality, natil within a four days' journey of the town of Borton, and at that point ment, told the tale in full. Joe was kneeling and the bell and returned "How long" is in the bell and returned the bell and returned "How long" is in the borders of the came out of a small door round a principality, natil within a four days' journey bell to the town of Borton, and at that point some asperity to know what the row was young George's piteous aspect and tenorsome aspectity to know what the row was young George's piteous aspect and tenorabout. George tendered his ticket almost sounding voice of culture drew a shilling from pentant and atoning tears as most men— with meekness; but when the porter made a charitable maleter. With that shilling God be thanked for it—have never had the further objections to the disturbance of George bought amongst other things a sheet workhouse tranquility, the reduced noblement began to take a haughty air with and in the sickness and misery of his heart found pluck enough to write to John Keen

TO BE CONTINUED.

THE DUKE AND THE DOCTOR.

General Bell, in his "Rough Notes by an Old Soldier," tells the following amusing story of Maurice Quill, a famous surgeon of out, after a while, with a very effective in the house, but too much engaged to see anyone to-day; I will take your messeage to blackguard song to yourself, if you must leing it?"

In sordening is in the house, but too much engaged to see anyone to-day; I will take your messeage to his lordship." "No, I thank you, if I can't see him to day, I will wait

They all looked up again at this interruption, and the singer was palpably discomfited.

"I quite agree with you, sir," said a broken looking, dirty grey man in a corner here. broken looking, dirty grey man in a corner and told his lordship that "a Dr. Quill was below in a state of anxiety and would not take any denial, came a long way to see your and a confirmatory murmur ran about the place.

"It ain't quite the thing, and a confirmatory murmur ran about the place."

delivered his secret." "Well, well, a him up." After bowing and scraping, "After bowing and scraping, "After bowing and scraping, "After bowing and scraping," "The secret of the property of the of th lordship, and would not go back until he had "Well, well, show lord," he said, "I am the surgeon of the quite ashamed, you know, to ask you for anything more. But old Syd is a pretty tough
customer for a younger brother to deal with,
shall not," returned the aristocrat of the
"Yes, yes (cutting him short) how are you

been written.

"What the dickens—?" he began, and stopped again, feeling—like the famous American—unequal to the occasion. "Who the deuce—:" he began again, and again he deuce—:" he began again, and an annulled her warriage. Her mother by which, as they by hich, as they get home I shall have a wigging. I don't want to vex him. Would be will want to approve.

At this juncture the porter returned, fol we will want to approve.

At this juncture the porter returned, fol we will want to approve.

At this juncture the porter returned, fol we will want to approve.

At this juncture the porter returned, fol we will want to approve.

At this juncture the porter returned, fol we will want to approve.

At this junctur comforts for the invalids that would put them on their legs if I might make bold enough to ask your lordship for a loan of ten pounds until tile next issue of pay, when I will return it with a thousand thanks." "Very well, very well, Mr. Quill, you shall have it; how far have you come to-day?" O, indeed, I have ridden seven long leagues times as well in quod as they does when you on an empty stomach, and there's not a bit of an inn over the whole country where a body could get a morsel of dinner." well, if not too late for you, stay and have some dinner before you return; we dine at six. Good morning, Mr. Quill." Quill's eyes man,' said the sturdy tramp; 'an' quod's opened wide and joyfully at this invitation. the shop where they cut your hair for nothin'. He was punctual to the six as he said. All Never been there, I s'pose?"

"Don't take any notice of him, sir," said kept the table in a rear of laughter all the evening until he retired with his ten pounds and his Wellington dinner, got a shake down I ve seen better days myself, and it's easy to with his friend the aide de camp, and his whack of brandy and cigars; got safe home next day and claimed his bets. story honestly and gave his references, but there was no question about it; every one knew him to be as upright and honorable as

> DETROIT FREE PRESS GEO-GRAPE

he was eccentric, and surcharged with mirth

"What is an ocean?"

"An ocean is a large body of water entirely surrounded by British ship yards and covered

"Three fingers of whiskey without any water."

"What do we mean by latitude?" "Permitting an office holder to rob the people and get into Canada with his swag. What course would an American steamer take in going from New York to Liverpool "Don't know. It has been so long since one tried it that she would probably bring up in San Francisco."

"What pavv ?" "A choice ollection of three or four old hulks which can be cut down or built up whenever an appropriation offers a chance to steal.

"What are our principal imports from Russia ?"

" Nihilists and canarus." "What are our principal exports to

Spain?"
"Wooden headed ministers."

Wooden neaded in the What is a gulf?"

What is a gulf?"

The distance between the average hotel a front room clerk and the guest who wants a front room "Where are the principal whaling grounds

"In the district school houses of America." "What is the climate of Peru ?"

"It has been red hot for a year past, but is sooling off some."

have passes to go by rail." "Where does our best coffee come from?" "From the grocery."
"What is an absolute monarchy?"

"It is a system of government under which one man dues all the bossing and keeps his eye out for cold poison, torpedoes, powder "What is a limited monarchy?"

" A system of government under which the people pay all the expenses and the ruler has "What is a republic."

"A sort of orphan asylum for criminals." "That will do for the present. You can take your seats and see which one of you can first discover the correct answer to: celebrated navigator invented the ginsling ?'

-It has been universally supposed that a mule, having satisfactorily kicked a hystands nations, washed in a bucket of water which er to death, had no further use for the reeverybody used in turn, and took his way mains, but a recent occurrence in the South lends color to a different belief. Near East Macon, Ga., a week or two ago, a negro was observed driving a mule and a horse, harn essed together, along a by road. Several days afterward two gentlemen who were walking through a piece of woods in the vi cinity came upon a wagon, a dead horse, and a living mule. All the fodder and the horse's collar had been eaten, the horse's body had peen ripped open and not a vestige of the negro remained. The mule wore pression of tranquil melancholy, but in respect to physical condition seemed to be somewhat above his average. Of course it is easy to imagine what became of the negro, man flesh to horse meat is not apparent planation is accepted by the family of the