## A Woman Intervenes.

BY ROBERT BARR.

Author of "The Face and the Mask," "In the Midst of Alarms," etc.

> (Copyright, 1895, by Robert Barr.) CHAPTER XIII.

The chances are that no matter under what circumstances young Longworth, and Kenyon had first met, the former would have disliked the latter. Although strong friendships are formed between people who are very much unlike, still it must not be forgotten that equally strong hatreds have arisen between people merely hatreds have arisen between people merely because they are of opposite natures. No two young men could have been more unitie each other, and as Long worth recalled the different meetings he had had with Kenyon, he admitted to himself that he distiked the fellow extremely. The evident friendship which his consin felt for Kenyon added a bitterness to this dislike that was rapidly furning it into hate. However, he calmed down sufficiently on going home in the carriage to know that it was better to say nothing about her meeting with Kenyon carriage to know that it was better to say nothing about her meeting with Kenyon unless she introduced the subject. After all, the carriages was hers, not his, and he recognized that fact. He wondered how much Kenyon had told her of the interview at his uncle's office. He flattered himself, however, that he knew enough of women to be sure that she would very specifity refer to the subject, and then he hoped to find out just how much had been said. To his surprise, his cousin said nothing at all about the functor, neither that evening nor the next morning, and conse

ing at all about the matter, neither that evening nor the next morning, and consequently he went to his office in rather a be wildered state of mind.

On arriving at his room in the city he found Mylvine waiting for him.

Melville stook hands with young Longworth, and taking a mineral specimen from his pocket placed it on the young man's desk, saying:
"I suppose you know where that comes

Longworthlookedatiftina bewilderedsort f way, turning it round and round it his

nand.
"I haven't the slightest idea, really."
"No? I was told you were interested in the mine from which this was taken. Mr. Wentworth called on me yesterday and gave your name as one of those who were concerned. 'Ah, yes, Isee; yes, yes, I have some inter-

Well, it is about that I came to talk with you. Where is the mine situated?"
"It is near the Ottawa Kiver, I believe, some distance above Montreal. I am not certain about its exact position, but it is

certain about its exact position, but it is somewhere in that neighborhood."

"I thought by the way Wentworth talked it was in the United States. He mentioned another person as being his partner in the affair. I forget his name."

"John Kenyon, probably."

"Kenyon! Yes, Ithink that was the name.

"Kenyon! Yes, I think that was the name.

Tes, I am sore it was. Now may I ask what
is your connection with that mine? Are you

pariner of Wentworth's and Kenyon's?

Are you the chief owner of the mine, or is
the mine owned by them?"

"In the first place, Mr. Melville, I should
like to know why you ask me these quesloos?"

Melville laughed. "Well, I will tell you. We should like to know what chance there is of our getting a controlling in-terest in the indic. That is very frankly put, isn't it."
"Yes, it is But whom do you mean by 'we". Who else healdes yourself?"

we?" Who else besides yourself?"
"By 'we' I mean the China Company to which I belong. This inineral is useful in making china. That I suppose you

"Yes, I was aware of that," answered Longworth, although he heard it now for the first time. "Very well, then; I should like to know

"Very well, then; I should like to know who is the owner of the mine at present is some foreigner, whose name and address I do not know. The two young men you speak of have an option on that mine for a certain length of time; how long, I don't know. They have been urging me to go in with them to form a company for the floajing of that mine, for £200,000, on the London market."
"He mentioned £200,000," said Meli-

"He mentioned £200,000," said Meli-ville "It struck me as rather a large

Do you think so? Well, the objection I had to it was that it was too small. "It seems to me the young men have an exaggerated idea of the value of this min-eral if they think it will pay dividends on 2200 and."

"This mineral is not all there is in the mine. In fact, it is already paying a dividend on £50,000 or thereabouts because of the mice in it. It is being mined for mice in it. To tell the truth, I did not know much about the other mineral." 'And do you think the mine is worth 'Frankly, I do not."

"Frankly, I do not."
"Then why are you connected with it."
"I am not connected with it. at least, not definitely connected with it. I have the matter under consideration. Of course, if there is anything approaching a swindle in it. I shall have nothing to do with it. It will depend largely on the figures that the rest man show me whether I have

It will depend largely on the highes that the young men show me whether I have mything to do with it or not."
"I see; I understand your position."
Then, lowering his voice, Melville leaned over toward young Longworth and said: "You are a man of business. Now I want to ask you what would be the chance of to ask you what would be the chance of our getting the mine at something like the original option price, which is, of course, very much less than £200,000. We do not want to have too many in it. In fact, if you could get it for us at a rea-sonable rate, and did not care to be troubled with the property yourself, we

would take the whole outselves."
Young Longworth pondered a moment,
and then said to Melville:
Do you mean to freeze out the other

two fellows, as they say in America?"
"I do not know about freezing out, but course, with the other two there is so ch less profit to be divided. We should to deal with just as few as possible." much less profit to be divided. We should like to deal with just as few as possible." "Exactly. I see what you mean. Well, I think it can be done. Are you in a very great hurry for the mine?" "Not particularly. Why?" "Well, if things are worked rightly, I

w but that we could get it for e original option. That would mean, course, to wait until this first option

Wouldn't there be a little danger in that? They may form their company in meantime, and then we should lose the meaning, our interest in the matter is as much to prevent anyone getting hold of the mine as to get it ourselves."

"I see. I will think it over. I believe it can be done without much risk, but, of we shall have to be reasonably gulet about the matter.

"Oh, certainly, certainly."
"Very good. I will see you again after
I have thought over the affair, and we can come to some arrangement." "I may say that our manager has written

Wentworth saying that this a note to wentworth saying that this mineral is of no particular use to us."

"Exactly." said young Longworth, with a look of intelligence.

"So, of course, in speaking with Wentworth about the matter, it is just as well not to mention us in any way."

"I shall not do so."

"I shall not do so.

"Very well. I will leave the matter in your hands for the present."
"Yes; do so. I will think over it this afternoon, and probably see Wentworth and I will leave the matter in

burry, for I happen to know they have not that Mr. Melville took his leave.

with that Mr. Methic took his recard young Longworth paced up and down the room, evolving a plan that would at once bring him money and give him the satisfaction of making it lively for John Kenyon.

That night at home young Longworth waited for his cousin to say something about Kenyon, but he soon saw that she did not intend to speak of him at all. So he said to her:

Edith, do you remember Kenyon and Wentworth, who were on board our

"Well, do you know they had a mining property for sale?"
"Yes." "I have been thinking about it. To tell

given the subject much thought, I could not give him any encouragement; but I have been joudering over it since, and have almost concluded to help them. What do you think about the

almost concluded to help them. What do you think about it?"
"On, I think it would be an excellent plan. I am sure the property is a good one, or John Kenyon would have nothing to do with it. I shall write a hote to them, if you think it best, inviting them up here to talk to you about it."
"On that will not be presently at all. I

"On, that will not be necessary at all. I on, that wit not be necessary at all a do not want people to come here to talk business. My office'ls the proper place."
"Still, we met them in a friendly way on board the steamer, and I think it would be nice if they would come here some evening and talk over the matter with you." "I don't believe in introducing busine

into a person's home. This would be a purely basiness conversation, and it may as well take place at my office, or at Went worth's Liche basione, as I suppose he has." "Oh, certainly: his address is." "Oh, you know it, do you?

Edith binshed as she realized what she had said, then she remarked: "Is there any harm in my knowing the business ad-dress of Mr. Wentworth?"

"Oh, not at all—not at all. I merely won der how you happened to know his address when I don't."

Well, it doesn't matter how I know it. I am glad you are going to join him, and I am sure you will be successful. Will you see

them tomorrow?"
"I think so. I shall call on Wentworth
and have a talk with himatoutit. Of course,
we may not be able to come to a workable

we may not be able to come to a workable arrangement. If not, it really does not so very much matter, But if I can make satisfactory terms with them, I will help them to form their company."

When Edith went to her room she wrote a note. It was addressed to George Wentworth in the city, but above that address was the name of John Kenyon. She said: "Dear Mr. Kenyon: I felt certain at the time you spoke, although I said nothing of it, that my cousin was not so much at fault inforgeting his conversation as you flought. We had a talk tonight about the mine, and when he calls upon you tomorrow, as he intends to do, I want you to know that I said nothing whatever to him about what you said to me. He mentioned the subject liest. I wanted you to know this because t. I wanted you to know this because might feel embarrassed when you me by thinking I had you. you might feel chibarrassed when you met him by thinking I had sent him to you. That is not at all the case. He goes to you of his own accord, and I am sure you will find his assistance in forming a company very valunable. I soo glad to think you will be partners. Yours very truly, "EDITH LONGWORTH."

She gave this letter to her maid to post, and young Longworth met the maid in the

is foolish to expect to draw the grand prize; now, isn't it?"
Wentworth, who knew more of the city
and its ways than his pariner did, at once
recognized the truth of Longworth's theories on the subject.

"You are quite right, Mr. Longworth," he said, "and I think that all we need now discuss are the terms of our agreement with each other."
"There will be little difficulty on that that score," replied Longworth. "I will take a third of the risk and a third of the risk and a third of the socies," it that is satisfactory to you."

take a third of the risk and a third of the profits, if that is satisfactory to you."

The agreement was completed on this basis, and Wentworth feit that a long step had been taken toward the end desired, but Kenyon wondered why their new partner had so suddenly changed his mind. Offices were taken near the bank, and much time and money were spent in fitting them up. Both Kenyon and Wentworth chated at the delay, but their partner pointed out that nothing was to be gained by undue haste. Any attempt to rusk things would have a bad effect in the city. Capital was timorous, and nothing mass be done prematurely.

All in all, Kenyon and Wentworth received

All in all, Kenyon and Wentworth received many excellent business maxims from their partner, and it is to be hoped they profited

y them. Prospeciuses were printed, and a firm of solicitors was retained; but in spite of all this no real progress was made toward the formation of the Canadian Mica Mining ompany (Limited). William Longworth had an eye for beauty.

One eye was generally covered with a round disk of glass, except when it fell out of its place and dangled in front of his waistooat. Whether the monocle assisted his sight or not, it is certain that William knew a pretty girl when he saw her. One of the housemaids in the Longworth household left suddenly, without just cause or provocation, as the advertisements say, and in her place was engaged a girl so prettythat when William Longworthcought sight of her, his monocle dropped from its place, and he stared at her with his two natural eyes, massisted by optical science. One eye was generally covered with a natural eyes, unassisted by optical science He tried to speak to her on one or two oc-casions when he met her alone, but be could casions when he met her alone, but be could get no answer from the girl, who was very shy and demure, and knew her place, as they say. All this only enfanced her beauty in young Longworth's estimation, and he thought highly of his consin's taste in the chousing of this young person to dust the

furniture.

William had a room in the house which was partly sitting-room and partly office and where he kept many of his papers. He was supposed to study matters of business deeply in this room, and it gave him a good decily in this room, and it gave him a good excuse for arriving late at the office in the morning. He had been sitting up into the small bours, he would tell his nucle, although he would sometimes vary the excuse by saying that it was quieter in his room than in the city, and that he had spent the early part of the morning in reading the court.

The first time that William got an



"You have a prodigious head for business, Sasie."

how suspected, after the foregoing conversa-tion, to whom the letter was addressed. "Where are you going with that?" "To the post, sir."

"To the post, sir."
"I am going out to save you the trouble I will take it."
After passing the corner, he looked at the address on the envelope, then he swore to himself a little. If he had been a villain in a play he would have opened the letter, but he did not. He merely become it into the first nillar hay he came. dropped it into the first pillar box he cause to, and in due time it reached John Ken-

CHAPTER XIV

If a bad beginning presages a good end ing the two amateur company promoters ought to have been well pleased, but, such is the inconsistency of human nature, they were not. Wentworth was the least de pressed by the ominous start, although he admitted that the letter received from the manager of the china manufactory, as-serting that the spar shown to him was of no particular value, was a serious set-back. Kenyon maintained that Melville and Brand, his managers of the works were either ignorant or falsifiers of fact The mineral, he insisted was all he claimed

"I hardly see how that helps us," said Wentworth. "They can't be ignorant, for they know how to make china, white we don't. On the other hand why should they lie to us? What object could they

have in not teiling the truth?"

This was a question that John was not prepared to answer, so, being a sensible man, he remained silent.

When he read Edith Longworth's letter

when he read rain Langworth settle he felt more encouraged, and in due time, William Longworth, himself wrote, asking for an appointment, saying that he had reconsidered the matter, and, if satisfactory, arrangements could be made, he would be glad to assist them in forming a

company. When the three young men met in Wentworth's office. Longworth appeared to have become reasonably enthusiastic about the project, but assured them that a company could not be formed in the economical manner they had intended. Much depended on appearances in the city; handsome offices would have to be obtained, a good firm of solicitors should be chosen, and there would be much printing and advertising to be done.

Kenyon pointed out that all this required time and money, both of which requisites

were short.

"We are making a strike for £60,000 each," said Longworth calmly, focussing his gittering monocle on Kenyon. "That sum of money is not picked up in London every day, and it is never picked up anywhere without taking a little risk. If you economize on your sprat you will not catch your gudgeon."
"But we haven't the money to risk,"

inswer from the new housemaid was when he expressed his anxiety about the care of his room. He said that servants generally were very careless, and that he hoped she would attend to the room and see that his papers were kept nicely in order. This, without glancing up at bin, the girl promised to do, and William thereafter found his room kept with a scrupulous neatness which would have delighted the most restricted of the scrupulous reaches a control of the scrupulous and the scrupulous reaches a control of the scrupulous reaches reaches a control of the scrupulous reaches reaches a control of the scrupulous reaches re

particular of men.

One morning when William was sitting in this room, enjoying an after-breakfast cigarette, the door opened softly, and the new housemaid entered. Seeing him there, she seemed confused and was about to retire again, when William, throwing his cigarette away, spring to his feet. "No, don't go," he said, "I was just about to rine."

The girl paused with her hand on the door. "Yes." he continued "T "Yes," he continued, "I was just going oring, but you have saved me the trouble; out, by the way, what is your name?" "Susy, if you please, sir," replied the

girl, modestly. "Ah, well, Susy, just shut the door for The girl did so, but evidently with some

reluctance.
"Well, Susy," said William, Jauntily,
"I suppose that I am not the first one who
has told you that you are very pretty."
"Oh, sir!" said Susy, blushing and look-

"On, sir' said susy, missing and rooking down on the carpet.

"Yes, Susy, and you take such good care
of this room that I want to thank you for
it," continued William.

Here he fumbled in his pocket for a moment
and drew out half a sovereign.

"Here, my girl, is something for your
trouble. Keep this for yourself."

"Here, my girl, is trouble. Keep this for yourself."
"Oh, I couldn't think of taking money.
"I deswine back. "I "On, I couldn't imit of lasting money, sir," said the girl, drawing back. "I couldn't, indeed, sir."
"Nonsense," said William; "Isn't it enough?"
"On, it's more than enough, Miss Longwall for what I do sir.

worth pays me well for what I do, sir, and it's only my duty to keep things tidy."
"Yee, Susy, that is very true; but very few of us do our duty, you know, in this

"But we ought to, sir," said the girl, in a tone of quiet reproof that made the young

a tone of quiet reproof that made the young man smile.
"Perhaps," said the young man; "but then, you see, we are not all pretty and good, like you. I'm sorry you will not take the money. I hope you're not offended at me for offering it," and William adjusted his monocle and looked his sweetest at the young person standing before him.
"Oh, no, sir," she said; "I'm not at all offended, and I thank you very much, yery much, indeed, sir, and I would like to ask you a question, if you wouldn't think me too bold."
"Bold?" cried William, "Why, I think

too bold."
"Bold?" cried William. "Why, I think you are the shyest little woman I have ever seen. I'll be pleased to answer any question you may ask. What is it?"
"You, see, sir, I've got a little money of my own."

"But we haven't the money to reas,"
"Well, do you know they had a mining operity for sale?"
"Yes."
"Yes."
"I have been thinking about it. To tell a truth, Kenyon called at my office a day two ago, and at that time, not having two ago, and at that time, not having the struth.

most charming: "The money is in the

most charming. The money is in the bank and deaws no interest, and I thought I would like to favest it where it would bring in something."

"Certainly, Susie, and a most laudable desire on your part. Was it about that you wished to question me?"

"Yes, if you please sir. I saw this many your deak that thought I would res. It you piezze sir. I saw this paper on your desk that I thought I would ask you if it would be safe for me to put my money in these unines, sir. Seeling the paper here, I supposed you had something to do with it."

paper here, I supposed you had something to do with it."

William whistled a long, incredulous note and said. "So you have been reading my papers, have you, miss?"

"Oh, no, sir," said the girl, looking up at him with startled eyes. "I only saw the name Cacadian Mica Mine on this, and the paper said it would pay 10 per cents, and I thought if you had anything to do with it that my money would be quite safe."

"Oh, that goes without saying," said william; "but if I were you, my dear, I should not put my money in the mica mine."

"Oh, then you haven't anything to do with the mine, sir."

"Yes, Susy, I have. You see, fools build houses and wise men live in them."

ouses and wise men live in them."
"So I have heard," said Susy, thought-

fully.
"Well, two young fools are building the house that we will call the Canadian Mica Mice, and I am the wise man; don't you see. Susy?" said the young man, with a sweet "I'm afraid I don't quite understand,

"I don't suppose, Susy," replied the young man, with a laugh, "that there are many who do, but I think in a mouth's time I will own this mice mine, and then, my dear, if you still want to own a share or wo, I shall be very pleased to give you a ew without your spending day money at Oh, would you, sir oried Susy, in glad

"Oh, two young fellows. You wouldn't now their names if I told them to you." "Aud are they going to sell it to you, sir."
"Aud are they going to sell it to you, sir."
Wilfiam laughed hearing and said:
"Oh, no, they themselves will be sold."
"But how can that he if they don't own the mine? You see, I am only a very stupid girl and don't understand business. That's why I asked you about my money."
"Idon't samones work know what an ontion

'I don't suppose you know what an option do you, Susy." "No. sir, I don't; I never heard of It be-

"Well, these two young men have what is "Well, these two young men have what is called an option on the mine, which is to say that they are to pay a certain sam of money at a certain time and the mine is theirs; but if they don't pay the certain sam at thecertain time the mine is theirs; "And won't they pay the money, sir?" "No, Susy, they will not, because, you see, they haven't got it. Then these two fools will be sold, for they tidnk they are going to get the money, and they are not."
"And you have the money to buy the mine when the option runs out, sir?"
"By Jove?" said William in surprise, "you have a prodigious head for business. Susy. I never saw any one pick it up so

susy. I never saw any one pick it up so ast. You will have to take lessons from ne and go on the market and speculate your-

Oh, I should like to do that, sir, I should indeed." said William kindly, "whenever you have time, come to me and I will give you lessons." The young man came toward her, holding out his hand, but the girl slipped away from him and opened the door. "I think," he said in a whisper, "that you might give me a kirs after all this wheals (nformation.")

ron might give me a sits after all this valuable information."

"Oh William!" cried Susy, borrified. He stepped forward and tried to catch her, but the girl was too nimble for him, and sprang out into the passage.

"I think," protested William, "that this is getting informatica under false pretences; I expected thy fee, you know."

"And you shall have it," said the girl, laughing softly, "which I get ten per centon may money."

"Egad," said William, to himself, as he entered his room nagain, "I will see that you get it. She's as elever as an outside broker."

When young, Langworth had left for his iffice, Susy swept and dested out his room again and then went down stalfs.

"Where's the misters:" she asked a fellow servant.

"In the library," was the answer, and to the library Susy went, entering the room without knacking, much to the aniazement of Edith Longworth, who sat near the window with a book in her lape But further surprise was in store for the lady of the house. The housening closed the door, and then, selecting a confertable chair, threw herself down in it, exclaming:

"Oh, dear me, I'm so tired."

"Susy," said Miss Longworth, "what I'm going to chuck it."

"Going to what?" asked Miss Longworth, amazed.

"Going to chuck it. Don't you under-

amazed. "Going to chuck it. Don't you under

tired of it."

"Very weil," said the young woman, rising. "You may give notice in the proper way. You have no right to come into this room in this impudent manner. Be so good as to go to your own room."

"My!" said Susy, "you can do the dignified. I must practice and see if I can accomplish an attitude like that. If you were a little prefiter, Miss Longworth. I should call that striking," and the girl threw back her head and inughed.

Something in the laugh aroused Miss Longworth's recollection, and a chill of

Longworth's recollection, and a chill or came over her, but, looking at the girl again, she saw she was mistaken. lumped up, still laughing, and drew a little pin from the cap she wore, flinging it on the chair; then she pulled off her wig, and stood before Edith Longworth

natural self. er natural seif.
"Miss Brewster." gasped the astonished
dith. "What are you doing in my bouse Edith. "What are you doing in my bodse in that disguise?"
"Oh." said Jennic, "I'm the lady slavey, and how do you think I have acted the part?
Now sit down, Miss Dignity, and I will tell you something about your own family. I thought you were a set of rogues, and now I can prove it?"
"Will you leave my house this instant?"

"Will you leave my house this instant."
ried Edith in anger. "I shall not listen to "Oh, yes, you will," said Jennie, "for I

shall follow your own example and not let you out until you do hear what I have to Saying which, the amateur housemaid tipped nimbly to the deer and placed her oack against it.
(To be continued.)

An Anecdote of Grady. An Anecdote of Grady.

Many are the anecdotes of the late Henry W. Grady, and all of them are interesting. Shortly before his death he extended an invitation to a newspaper man,
whom he had never seen, to call at his

When the journalist entered Mr. Grady was seated before a window in his private office, writing. "Sit down," he said, and then wrote on

for hair an hour in stience.
His visitor became "pstiess. He seized his hat and said, "Goodmorning!"
"Sit down," said Grady, "I'll talk with you in a minute."
The man resumed his sent; but just at

hat moment another visitor was an-lounced and admitted. Seeing that Grady was not alone, he "I'll call again when you are more at

"Stay," said Grady, "this man over ere (pointing to the journalist) doesn't amount to anything. Just talk away."

amount to anything. Just talk away."

Then the journalist grew hot in the collar and, rising, sald:
"If I don't amount to anything, Mr. Grady, why did you desire this meeting."
"My dear fellow," replied Mr. Grady, in his most winning way, "you're too sensitive. Just sit down again. I am perfectly delighted to see you!"
And the result of the interview was a remunerative contract to contribute a number of articles to the Constitution.—Atlanta Constitution.

anta Constitution.

Ornamental Book Covers. Ornamental Book Covers.

The covering of books with channois, sik or fine linen has come to be a positive art. By means of it a paper-bound volume may be transformed into something dainty and rich by a pair of clever hands at home. A volume copy of "Old Love Letters" was seennotlong ago which had been charmingly decorated by the outer slip, which was made of swhat is called "sad-cohered" alls. On of what is called "sad-colored" silk. Or t the title had been embroidred in subduct thits. A true lover's knot encircled the words, and from it a few scattered forget-me-nots were drooping. The offect was exquisite, and yet it was done by no expe-



(Copyright, 1895, by James L. Ford.) A close, sticky evening in early June. The unmistakable odors of spring and of moist earth are in the air and the streets and houstops and umbrellas are drenched with the warm rain which has been falling. all the afternoon in a silent, persistent drizzie.

In the front parlor of a luxuriously furnished house, situated on a brown-stone cross street not far from Central Park. the gas burns low in the big bronze chandelier, and the windows are wide open, for the day has been the bottest of the year and the night, with its tepid downpour, has thus far brought but little relief to suffering humanity. The master of the house, a portly, well-dressed and prosperous looking man, whose face is still young, despite the atreaks of gray in his hair and beard, is seated by one of the windows looking out at the sloppy pavements and carelessly generating to his wife that he is thankful that there is but one more day before vacation, and that, moreover, he does not know what he would do if schools and colleges were to have the long working seasions which were in vogue during his boy-

Now the master of this fine house had ample reason to rejoice in the long annual summer beliday which is the privilege of the youth of the present day, for he was none other than Prof. Phineas Boerum, distinguished as a scientist, exemplary in his domestic relations, and well known, not only as a member of the faculty of a great institution of learning, but also as the author of two or three of the most notable philosophical works of the day.

For some moments after making this remark Prof. Boerum remained by the open window apparently lost in his own thoughts, and very pleasant reflections or memories or anticipations they must have been, too, for soon a smile flitted over his handsome high-bred, intellectual face, and a moment high-bred, intellectual race, and impulse later, as if acting on some sudden impulse born of the thought, he sprang to his feet, giancel at his watch and remarked that it

was almost 11 o'clock and that he was obliged to go out for a short time. "W hat!" exclaimed Mrs. Boerum in querulous accents, "you don't mean to tell me that you're going out again to night and in this pouring rain too? If you are, I'd just like to know what there

is that calls you!" "My dear," rejoined her busband soothingly. "I am just going out for an hour or two, and by the way, you had better not sit up for me. It's an engagement I made some time ago and forgot all about it." And without waiting for his wife to urge any other objections, the Professor hastily made his escape and slammed the

hastily made his escape and sale and door behind him.
"Engagement is it?" cried Mrs Boerum,
"well I'd just like to know what fort of an engagement it is that he can't tell me about it! I have had my suspicious for some time, and to-night I sm going to find out just what fort of errands a man can have that will take him away from his family in the midst of a driving rain, and in the



his umbrella raised and his face turned toward the west. At 11 o'clock on the same rainy, cheeress evening Mr. "Kid" Leery emerged from the doorway of a shabby little bouse on a cross street about a block to the east ward of the Bowery, and stood, with his coat collar turned up about his neck, looking anxously up and down the street. His face was pale, his long frock coat shiny at the sleeves and frayed at the edges, while his hat and shoes were examples of premature decay

'Forty years old," e muttered under his breath, "and I've got a fine record to show for all that time. Clean broke to day and afraid to show my pose in the street for fear of getting nabbed for that little flims

flam trick last months Tenyearsagoto-night I was playing blue what brought that old matter up in my mind so strong when I have n't thought of it since way I'll run over there change my luck."

And as Mr. Kid Leery, the one time ele gant and successful gambler, still more ecently a "brace" fare dealer, and now a talented though hunted "film-flato" ex ert, skulked along under the shadows of the tall buildings toward the Bowery, crossed that electric-lighted thoroughfare with swift strides and then plunged into one of the narrow streets lending toward he North River, he failed to notice that a stout, well-dressed man, with a heavy ustache and silver-headed cane, was care ully dogging his footsteps,

This stranger, who was none other than detective Hickey, of the Central Office, oad a very determined look on his face as he moved swiftly along saying to himself, "You can bet the Kid won't get away rom me this time, and I'll find out what new lay he's on if it costs a leg."

of the many little Intersecting streets region which lies to west of Jeffer son Market there is a vacant lot on which no building has stood within the memory of the oldest inhabitant of which now contains only a huge heap of packing boxes, Surest and parrowest rounded on three

ides by tall factories, and separated from the street by a high fence, it is exactly the sort of place that a hunted riminal would be apt to fly to as a place of refuge from his pursuers. The letective arrived on the block just in ime to see the flim-flam artist open a mall door in the high fence and disapear through it into the vacant lot A noment later, before he could decide xactly what course to pursue, the as-

toni-hed officer heard the swift rumble of carriage wheels behind him, and then a hansom cab stopped suddenly beside him, and a very swell-looking gentleman in evening dress alighted, handed the driver \$2, then lit a eigenrette and smoked thoughtfully until the vehicle was well out of sight. Then he, too, entered the mysterious backyard and softly closed the door behind him.
"Well, this is a great find," exclaimed

Detective Hickey, and I guess I'll just wait here until they come out, for they an't get out any way but just through that door. I used to play in that lot when I was a kid, twenty-five years ago, and t's just the same now as it was then. He drew a cigar from his pocket and was in the act of lighting it when a distinguished-looking gentleman, who carried a silk umbrella over his head, approached from the other direction and followed the

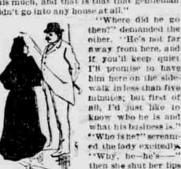
others through the little door.

The mystery was growing altogether to deep for a simple New York detective and matters were still further complicated by the sudden arrival on the scene of an excited woman with blood in her eye and a waterproof on her shoulders, who glanced sharply and suspiciously around her and then beidly approached the officer and in quired if he had seen a gentleman with an umbrella in his hand and an fron-gray beard pass that way within a minute and, if so, which house he had entered.
"There was a gentleman like the one you

describe who by here a minute or two ago, he rejoined with characteristic professional caution, 'but I'd like to know why

you're following him?"
"It's a pity if a woman basn's a right
to see what her own husband is about
at this time of night," exclaimed the excited stranger. "Here he's started out from his comfortable home in the midst of this driving rain and come all the way down here to see some woman i'll be bound. Now I want to know what house he's gone into, and if I lay my hands on the she'il never forget this night as long as she

The detective scratched his bead thought fully for a minute, and then observed: "Well, madame. I've always made it a rule not interfere between man and wife, but I'll say this much, and that is that that gentleman didn't go into any house at all."



ed the lady excitedly 'Why, he-he's then she shut her tips herd and said de you his name. You probably want to go

there'd be a pretty how d'ye do. Detective Hickey shrugged his shoulders and said: "Well, I'm going in to find him now, and I advise you to stay right where you are until I come back." With these words he crossed the street, passed quickly through the little door in the high fence and tiptoed softly across the vacant lot to a sheltered place behind a heap of packing boxes, where a glimmer of a lantern be faintly seen.

All this time the strange woman had kept closely at his heels and now they stood together peering cautiously at three men the distinguished whom they saw seated under the shelter of scientist who was some overhanging boxes and talking to whistling gaily as he trudged along with one another with much earne-tness. The light from a small dark lantern shone upon an upturned box between them on which stood a handsome silver-me drinking flask and a small cup made o the same metal. The three men scemes to be on the best of terms with one another, and Kid Leery was the only one who appeared at all disconcerted when the minion of the law abruptly interrupted

the little gathering.
"Kid, I'll have to trouble you and your friends to take a little walk with me to night, and you'd better all of you com quiet and peaceable for I've got two of my men within call"

'What's that?" cried the gentleman with the fron-gray beard. "Are we really ar-rested? Well, that is a good joke," and he and the man who had come in the nansom cab burst into such hearty roars of laughter that even Kid Leery's woe begone face relaxed, and he joined faintly in their mirth. "Well, gentlemen," observed the centra

office man, "you'll have to give me som pretty good reasons for being here at this time of night along with the Kid, who's beer wanted in Mulberry street for the past six weeks, if you don't want to go along with "That's so," said Mr. Leery, ruefully, "I have been wanted for pretty hear six reeks, and I laid low until to-night, wher I remembered the date I made so many years ago, and I come out just because I thought it might break my luck. Well, I suppose

you might call this breaking the lack. It's a change anyway, for I've never had the nig pers on my hands yet." The faces of the two strangers had grown grave as they listened to Kid Leery's words and now the man in evening dress turned quietly to the detective and said:

"I think I can explain this matter to you, sir, though I'm afraid you'll scarce ly believe the story. We three men here, Phin Boerum, Joe Bannock, whom I notice you call the Kid, and myself, George Vanderhoeven, used to play in this vacan lot when we were boys at school, twenty five years ago, and one night about half a dozen of us got together here and formed ourselves into a secret society, and as long as we were at the old Grammar School around the corner we used to meet here on dark nights and play that we were robbers in a cave. When we got through with school we made a solemn agreement that twenty-five years from the night that we formed our society we'd come together right here, if we were living, and talk ver old times and tell one another how the world had wagged. From time to time after that we used to meet and remind one another not to forget the date we had set so far ahead, and then I went to Europe, and Joe here drifted out West, while one or two of the other boys died, and Phin, who was always at the foot of his class, went to college and began to

write books. "Well, here we are, anyway, after a quarter of a century, and we were just talking over our old school days when you came along and interrupted us in what I must say was a very rude manner. There are one or two more that might turn up before the stroke of twelve, and if you've no objection. I'd like to give them ten mit utes longer, for such an occasion as this doesn't come often in a man's lifetime, and I wouldn't like to think what will

have become of us twenty-five year from now. Joe here, or the Kid, as you call him, was just telling us that he had been playing in pretty hard luck. and if we can help him in any way we're ready to do it."

The detective, who had listened attentively, and with an absolutely ex-pressionless face to the extraordinary explanation given by the gentleman in evening dress, now partly turned his head and smiled softly. But it was not what he had heard from the man in front of him that made him smile; it was the sound of departing footsteps and the rustle of feminine garments behind him that fold him that at least one woman's curiosity had been satisfied, and he knew, being a married man himself, that one innocent man would probably find his home brighter and pleasanter than before for two or three

days to come.
"Well, gentlemen," he said at last, "this is very interesting, and I'm not the man to spoil sport of any kind. But who is there to come you."
"Tom Harriman is one," began Prof.

Boerum, but the detective shook his head positively and said dryly, "He'll not be here for three years."

"And Juck Hickey is another!" cried the men in evening dress. "Then it seems that we are all here to-gether," remarked the detective quietly, and so if there is anything in that bottle you'd best pass it around and we'll drink

"Jack Hickey, as I am a sinner," gasped Prof. Boerum "Put it there, old man!" exclaimed Vanderhoeven, leaping to his feet, and extending his hand, while Kid Leery's face brightened

to old times.

for a moment as a thought flashed through his brain. I must admit that this engagement sort of slipped my mind," remarked the Central Office man, as he took the tlask and cup that were held out to him, "but now I am here, I'm glad to see all of you. As for you, Joe Bannock, I actually mistook you for a chap named Kid Lecry that we have been looking for for some time, so if you happen to run across him within the next few weeks, you'd better tell him to keep out of sight for a time. Well, here's to all of us."

And just then the midnight bells began to toll.

> that after cleaning lace artains we carefully iron





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## BAILROADS. Pennsylvania

RAILROAD. STATION CORNER OF SIXTH AND B STREETS. In Effect November 17, 1895.

10.30 A. M. PENNSYLVANIA LIM ITED.—Pullman Sleeping, Dining, Smek-ing, and Observation Cars, Harrisburg to Chicago, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Cleveland, and Toledo, Buffet Parlor Car to Harrisburg. Parlor Car to Harrisburg

10.30 A. M. FAST LINE — Pullman
Buffet Parlor Car, to Harrisburg, Parlor and Dhing Cars, Harrisburg Parlor and Dhing Cars, Harrisburg to
Pittsburg

3.40 P. M. CHICAGO AND ST. LOUIS
EAPRESS.—Pullman Euffet Parlor Car
to Harrisburg

to Harrisburg. Siceping and Dining Cari Harrisburg to St. Louis, Cheinnath, Louis-ville, and Chicago.
7.10 P. M. WESTERN EXPRESS— Pulman Sleeping Car to Chicago, and Harrisburg to Cleveland. Dining Car to Chicago

PRESS - Pullman Sleeping and Dining Cars to St. Louis, and Sleeping Car Harrisburg to Cincinnati. 10.40 P. M. PACIFIC EXPRESS -

daily, except Sanday, For Williamsport daily, 3.40 p. m.
7.10 P. M. for Williamsport, Rochester, Buffalo, and Niagara Falls daily, ex-cept Saturday, with Siesping Car Wash-ington to Suspension Bridge, via Buf-falo. 10.40 P. M. for Eric, Canandalgua, Rochester, Buffalo, and Niagara Falls daily, Sleeping Car Washington to El mira.

Romester, Bollalo, and Niagara Falls daily, Sleeping Car Washington to El milita.

For Philadelphia, New York, and the Fast.

4.00 P. M. "Condition of the Market Silvand Limita.

4.00 P. M. "Condition of the Market Silvand Limitage Car from Baitlinore, Regular at 7.05 (Dining Car from Baitlinore, Regular at 7.05 (Dining Car), and 11.60 (Dining Car from Wilmington) a. m., 12.45, 3.15, 4.20, 6.40, 10.00, and 11.35 p. m. On Sanday, 7.05 (Dining Car from Wilmington) a. m., 12.15, 3.15, 4.20, 6.40, 10.00, and 11.35 p. m. For Philadelphia only, Fast Express 7.50 a. m. week-days, Express, 12.15 week-days, 2.01 and 6.40 p. m. daily. For Boston without chainge, 7.50 a. m. week-days, and 3.15 p. m. daily.

For Raitimore, 6.25, 7.05, 7.20, 7.50, 9.00, 10.00, 10.30, 11.00, and 11.50 a. m., 12.15, 12.45, 2.01, 3.15, 3.40(4.00 Limited), 4.20, 4.36, 5.40, 6.40, 6.40, 6.40, 5.10, 10.00, 10.40, 2.15, and 11.35 p. m. On Sunday, 7.06, 7.20, 9.00, 9.08, 10.80, 11.00 a. m., 12.15, 1.15, 2.01, 3.15, 3.40 (4.00 Limited), 4.20, 5.40, 6.55, 6.40, 7.10, 10.00, 10.46, 2.15, and 11.35 p. m. For Pepe's Creek Line, 7.20 a. m. and 4.36 p. m. daily, except Sunday.

For Alexandria, 4.30, 6.30, f.80, 6.40, 6.71, 7.0, 10.00, 10.40, 4.20, 1.40, 8.40, 6.55, 6.40, 7.10, 10.00, 10.40, 2.15, and 11.35 p. m. For Pepe's Creek Line, 7.20 a. m. and 4.36 p. m. daily, except Sunday. Sunday, 9.00 a. m. and 4.20 p. m. Atlantic Coast Line, Express for Riehmond, Jacksonville, and Tampa, 4.30 a. m., 3.46 p. m. daily, Richmond and Atlanta, 8.40 p. m. daily, Richmond only, 10.57 a. m. week-days.

Accounted the formal for Washington, 6.05, 6.43, 7.05, 8.00, 9.10, 10.00, 10.40, 9.45, 8.02, 10.10, 9.45, 8.00, 9.10, 10.10,

p. m. have Alexandria for Washington, 6.05, 6.43, 7.05, 8.00, 9.10, 10.15, 10.28 a.m., 1.00, 2.15, 3.06, 3.23, 5.00, 5.30, 6.13, 7.00, 7.20, 9.10, 10.52 and 11.08 p. m. On Sunday at 6.43, 9.10, 10.28 a.m., 2.15, 5.30, 7.00, 7.20, 9.10, and 10.52

p. m.
Ticket offices, corner Fifteenth and B
streets and at the station, Sixth and B
streets, where orders can be left for the
checking of baggage to destination from
hotels and residences.

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Puliman Sleeping Car to Pittsburg.
7.50 A. M. for Kane, Canandalgua Rochester, and Ningara Falls daily, ex 10.30 A. M. for Elimira and Renova daily, except Sunday. For Williamspor