

# PROFESSIONAL BRETHREN

BY GEORGE E. WALSH

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## CHAPTER XXI.

WAITED with feverish anxiety for Tuesday night. It was natural that I should have the experience constant fear about the success of my little scheme. If either my master or Dr. Squires got a hint of my intentions, the game would be up and I would have all my labor for nothing. It would be such an easy matter, too, for either Miss Stetson or Mr. Jamison to drop a word to some relative or intimate friend which would ruin everything.

I had not learned what Dr. Squires' son was leaving the mansion on any afternoon and evening, but I concluded that it had something to do with his prospective fortune, and this fortune, I felt, depended on the success of the stolen goods which had accumulated in his house. He had evidently reached the point where he thought it advisable to ship them away to some more convenient place where they could be disposed of to advantage. It would be comparatively easy to send them off by express to some distant city and melt up the silver pieces and sell the metal for what it would bring.

While he was making arrangements to escape with his unlawful goods I was planning to capture him and rob him of his sole title to a fortune. I did not doubt but he would take the lion's share of the spoils, leaving my master only a small portion, or probably he would at the last moment escape without dividing at all with him. He was capable of such a trick.

Shortly after dusk on Tuesday I approached the mansion on foot. I had made sure of the door's appearance. I saw him get on the train about noon and leave for the city. As soon as it was dark enough to conceal myself from view I approached the house and looked through the kitchen window. The old Indian servant was alone and seemed to be busily engaged in cooking his supper. When I had made sure of this I hurried around the front piazza and began to climb the post which once before served me a similar good turn.

Knowing the way well, I made quick work in climbing on the roof of the house, and I reached the cupola without mishap. Here I found everything as I had left it during my first visit. I opened the window without difficulty and proceeded to lift the trap door in the floor. The lock had not been tampered with, and nobody had ever been in the room since my first visit.

In a few moments I found my way down the ladder and stood in the upper hall. The house was wrapped in darkness, except for the light in the kitchen. This light helped to make my plan easier. I descended the front stairs noiselessly, and through the half open door I could catch a glimpse of the old servant. From this position I could measure his probable strength and powers. It was necessary that I should be able to cope successfully with him, and I was not going to run any risk.

For some time I watched his slow movements about the kitchen. He prepared his supper and ate it in silence. Then when he proceeded to wash the dishes I found that it was getting late, and for the success of my plan it would be necessary to expedite matters. I purposely dropped a heavy book in the front hall and then glided quickly behind the office portieres. The noise, as I expected, attracted the old man from his work, and he came catlike into the hall, peering intently ahead of him.

"Now, you'll remain there until I call for you," I said. "If I catch you attempting to escape, I'll shoot you." I placed my revolver at his temple as I spoke to emphasize my words. He looked frightened and shook his head vigorously.

Then I let him, locking the door and windows securely, and returned to the scene of our recent struggle. I lighted a lamp long enough to give me an opportunity to clean up things which we had displaced in our struggle. I wanted to appear natural when the doctor returned home.

Leaving a dim light burning in the kitchen, I took the front door key with me and stepped out into the cool night. "So far so good," I said to myself. It was then half past 8, and I had half an hour in which to reach the Stetson mansion in time to meet my appointment.

CHAPTER XXII.

WAS in Miss Stetson's study at 9 o'clock. Mr. Jamison was waiting there for me, and Miss Stetson was all prepared for her strange journey.

"I don't like this at all," she said, biting her lip. "I don't know whether to regard it as a joke or not."

"It is not a joke," Mr. Jamison replied seriously. "I fear it is far from it."

"Why not tell me all, then? I don't like mysteries."

"It is for him to tell you," he answered, pointing toward me.

He entered the office, followed by his master. After turning up the light in a brighter blaze he removed his overcoat.

"No, Charles; you're wrong in imagining that I do not help you in my treatment. I can see marked improvement in you every week."

"The doctor took a bottle from the mantelpiece and poured out some brandy, swallowing it with a gulp.

"But you know the effect your hypnotic treatment has upon me," my master replied. "Every morning after you subject me to it I'm so weak and languid that I do not care to do anything."

"Merely temporary—merely temporary, Charles. Nobody can be reduced to the hypnotic state without feeling some ill effects of it afterwards. But they are merely temporary and not lasting; they leave no permanent illness. You soon rally from your fatigue."

"Yes, I'm all right after a long rest, but it does not seem natural that such a reaction should follow."

"On the contrary, it is very natural—most natural. I should be surprised if it were not so. I cannot enter into a detailed explanation of hypnotism; it would require too much time, but I can assure you that it effects the nervous system for the time, and under the intense strain the nerves are subjected to the body must afterward feel weak and weary. That is all there is to it. If you were a weak, nervous person, I might hesitate, but one with your strong, vigorous constitution ought to stand it."

"My master did not reply, but remained passive, looking intently at the fire in the grate.

sent the virgin as she had appeared to Juan. The bishop fell on his knees in prayer and arose with a promise to build a chapel on the spot the virgin had designated.

The church possessed a very costly crown for the virgin. It is of solid gold and weighs many pounds. There are six shields on the crown for the six archbishops of Mexico, and they are all surrounded by diamonds. There are a number of emeralds, each having an immense ruby on the breast, while the rest of the surface of the crown is covered with sapphires and emeralds. This crown is surmounted by the Mexican eagle, holding aloft a large diamond cross.

The poor pilgrims are not able, many of them, to form an idea of the richness of this church, with its communion rail and balustrades from the sanctuary to the choir of solid silver. They are three feet high, with a top molding a foot wide and a still more massive base. The sacred vessels are all of pure gold embedded with precious stones. The choir has some fine carvings in ebony and mahogany.

"The finest is a bas-relief in wood, illustrating the litany of the virgin."

Artists were brought from France to paint the frescoes on the walls, and the paintings and statues were the work of the best European artists and sculptors. The organ in itself represents a small fortune.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Scott's "Drip Stone."

Years ago a Scotch great-grandpa brought from America a piece of sand rock that some persons thought was intended for a grindstone. What caused them to think so was not because it was round, but on the upper side it was hollowed out like a water wheel, and the other side had small projections like a chocolate drop in shape and size. Soon this was discovered to be what is termed a "drip stone" and when set in a shady place and the water side filled with water will deliver crystal pure and cold drops from the underside. The water is absolutely clean and pure as the result of this homely process. The idea was originally taken from the orientals, no doubt.—New York Press.

Never Ask Advice.

When you have a cough or cold don't ask what is good for it and get some medicine with little or no merit and perhaps injure the health. Buy Foley's Kidney Cure. After using two bottles, I am cured." Sold by Denton & Ward.

Dr. Wilbert Shallenberger.

The Regular and Reliable Chicago Specialist will be at Manchester, Clarence House, Monday, Nov. 3, one day only and return once every 28 days. Office hours 8 a. m. to 6 p. m.

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