

## THE ST. PAUL GLOBE

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CITY OF ST. PAUL.

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## BRANCH OFFICES.

New York, 1065 Mar. 25th St., 78 Mar.  
Chicago, No. 27 Washington St., The S. S. Webb Company in Charge

## A LARGE PROJECT.

Some months ago a few citizens came together and put into definite shape plans which had long been in their minds for a great general hospital, not only to be an honor to St. Paul, but to supply the wants of the hospital population of the whole Northwest. This project is in no sense a rival to existing institutions which are doing magnificent work in St. Paul, or a great money-making scheme, but the idea is to build an ideal hospital fitted with the latest appliances of electric apparatus and hydrotherapeutic appliances which shall be open to all persons, regardless of their ability to pay.

It is not the intention of the committee to ask funds for a charity hospital, though the fact that a man is unable to pay for treatment will not bar him from its service; but it is intended primarily to establish it for that great middle class of persons of moderate means who do not ask for charity but who are unable to pay high rates and yet always meet their expenses and never live beyond their means.

The organization of a project as large as this must necessarily be non-sectarian, not controlled by any clique and influenced by no political or religious affiliations. With this idea the central committee is composed of representative men from professional and commercial ranks who are banded together with the sole object of building a hospital which, far from injuring existing institutions, is designed to augment and supplement their work.

It has now come to be understood that it is almost impossible for the sick to receive proper care in their homes. With the wonderful increase of scientific knowledge, and the necessity of perfect antiseptic and sanitary environment, beside the utter inability of the private house to furnish appliances and conditions required, the hospital today is a greater necessity than ever before. Physicians know only too well that many lives have been sacrificed because of the improper housing of the sick poor.

It is the hope of the group of gentlemen who have this projected institution in charge to have in connection with it a great free dispensary where the sick poor can come freely and receive the best medical attention that even money could procure. The tremendous success of the existing University Free Dispensary and its present inadequate accommodations for the crowds that daily flock to it amply testify to the need of larger quarters and increased facilities.

Further, it is the ambition of the board of trustees to establish in connection with this great hospital a detention hospital for the insane; a pavilion exclusively for crippled children, and a convalescent home. Few realize the need of the latter. With the best intentions it is possible for but few hospitals to keep patients through a long convalescence; and in the case of the poor and indigent this enforced turning out and going back to squalid homes in unsanitary surroundings often undoes all the good work done by their sojourn in the hospital.

It is a large project and a comprehensive idea that is being agitated. Its realization would be a work of years and involve the collection of a great fund of money. But whether its appeal to the people be heard favorably or not, it is well that their minds and their interests should be engaged by the consideration of schemes that have for their purpose the amelioration of human conditions and the lightening of the common lot.

Those young women who fail to land the crown in the queen of the carnival contest may solace themselves with the knowledge that Ferdinand of Bulgaria is sprinting across Europe in the hope of keeping his head and losing his crown.

## THE TABLOID JAG.

Behold the passing of the pill. An Englishman, who knows that England expects every man to do his duty, even as he did in the day of Lord Nelson, has risen superior to the conditions that encompass his little island and perfected a process whereby the beer that makes the Briton to be respected abroad as he is revered at home shall be available for the globe trotter in the wilds of Canada and the jungles of India. Jealous contemporaries have succeeded in withholding from us so far the name of this benefactor of his nation. But his scheme has been indorsed and this hero of the laboratory and foe of the public house will presently be eligible to a niche in Westminster Abbey.

Tabloid beer ought to do much for the extension of civilization and the promotion of hilarity among the strange sullen peoples. England gave the opium pipe and the fascinating little black pill to the Chinese. The same advanced people carried the glad tidings of the dawn of civilization to the untutored and naked wretches of the islands of the sea in the form of rum with a headache in every spoonful. Today the sun never sets on the British flag, the smoke of the opium pipe or the aroma of rum.

But hitherto British beer has remained British beer—except in the few cases where the Britisher has found the means to carry it with him in sufficient quantities to quench his thirst and impress the outer barbarian with his excellence. The invention of the tabloid takes the limit off. It brings British beer within the reach of all and the impetus that will be given to the movement started by the czar for the establishment of universal peace by reason of this invention may not be readily measured.

Incidentally the aims of science have been subserved. It has been proved to demonstration that malt may be compressed in jag-producing quantities. Hereafter when the person with the fore-and-aft cap meets another with the same headgear in the Western—or Eastern—wilds, he will, instead of sitting down and anathematizing the country, ask his compatriot to join him in a pill of bitter beer. Thus will the amenities of life be promoted to the utter confounding of those persons who do not believe that boric acid is all that is needful to preserve cabbages and drinkables. It has been shown that adulterated foods are the healthiest. Sustenance for man and beast

has been compressed into measly looking but nourishing pills. And now the very prop of life itself is given into the hands of the wandering Britisher.

The user of the tabloid beer may not be limited to the British people. The advance agent in the field of science who has produced compressed beer will presently recognize the world-wide field for his activities and we may shortly expect to see upon the market the tabloid high ball and the compressed cocktail. The world moves and the advantages of living are being borne in upon us, for what toper will deny that it is better to sit in his office and swallow a jag at a gulp than to stand at a bar and deplete his purse in the purchase of iced drinks that embarrass the inner man without adding anything to the volume of possible tabloid joys?

The pure food convention struck the manufacturers of doped provender a body blow in declaring against adulterants of every sort, but let no sanguine person therefore assume that the chemists will at once lose interest in life and forget what borax has done for them.

## THE WALKING DELEGATE GETS THE GOOSE.

The walking delegate has happened on evil times. For years the butt of the paragrapher, the object of the cartoonist's derision, he has now arrived at that point in his career where he is in danger of being made the subject of judicial investigation while assaults on his person are of daily occurrence.

For two decades the walking delegate has had things his own way. The terror of the employer and the object of hatred of the non-union workman he has gone on swaggering through life an uncrowned king with all the power of organization behind him and the industrial world for his oyster. He is generally a man of resources and of all the qualities that he must possess to get and keep his job a confirmed belief in himself is the most essential. The man who could get the place of a walking delegate must have an immeasurable amount of what cannot be described by any other term than gall. Together with this quality he must have the cunning of the small politician and the capacity to compel men to his way of thinking, by physical force if necessary. The men who have succeeded as walking delegates might have succeeded in almost any other line, but the very qualities that fitted them for the place have led to their undoing.

A couple of members of the fraternity have fallen into the clutches of the law in New York. That they are men of parts and of local importance is shown in the fact that Big Bill Devery has declared his intention of spending a fortune to free them if necessary. They had barely been released on bail when they heard the news that several of their fellows, engaged in promoting a strike among the foreign sweatshop tailors of tenement districts of New York had been assaulted and beaten with flat irons. The tailor's goose was too much for the nerve of the walking delegate and he has withdrawn from the campaign now being carried on by the Knee Breeches Makers' union. The members of the unions who are too busy earning an honest living to spend time running for the office of walking delegate are getting a bit out of patience with the walking delegate and he is likely to lose his job by the abolishment of his office.

If it should happen that the walking delegate should be cut out of the unions the cause of union labor would not suffer. Desperate cases require desperate remedies sometimes, but there is no disease from which labor suffers that is one-half as menacing to the cause for which the unions stand as the insufferable individual who has come to be known too often as a petty dictator in the administration of the office of walking delegate.

Kansas newspapers are now agreed that the wheat crop of the bleeding state will amount to between 800,000,000 and 1,000,000,000 bushels which might account for the uncertainty of the market if the market was ever affected by reports from Kansas.

In Mary MacLane's new book there is no reference to the tooth brush. Which goes to show that the pet abominations of our youth may become the things to be desired of our maturity.

Patti is coming over for another farewell tour. Which ought to make the oldest inhabitant's recollections of Patti's first farewell tour a marketable magazine commodity.

## EDITORIAL EXPRESSIONS.

## More Governors Needed in Kansas.

Always count on Kansas for something "new and strange." The latest exhibit of this sort is made by State Labor Commissioner Johnson, who has warned his fellow officials, from governor down to the humblest office clerk, that he will prosecute them in the courts if they do not stop violating the eight-hour law. Gov. Bailey, in response to this warning, says:

"I was not raised on an eight-hour schedule, and I don't intend to adopt it now. Why, I couldn't perform the duty of my office, as I have sworn to do, without working nights and often on Sunday, and I don't think Mr. Johnson will be able to find a court that will punish a man for doing his duty."

Johnson is firm and says "the object of the eight-hour law is to give more people work, and the public officials should set a good example to other employers by complying with it to the very letter." One of two things, therefore, seems certain. Kansas must give more governors work by employing more than one chief executive, or Gov. Bailey must be prosecuted by the Labor Commissioner for violating the eight-hour law.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

## Oh Tommy, Tommy Lipton.

Up at Larchmont, on Long Island sound, the yachtsmen the other evening entertained Sir Thomas Lipton and edited him greatly by the singing of a song in parody of "Tommy Atkins." One verse ran thus:

"Oh, Tommy, Tommy Lipton, we have welcomed you before.  
And we hope again to welcome you a dozen times or more;  
We have faith in our Reliance, whom we trust to lose the blue,  
But losing, Tommy Lipton, we had rather lose to you."

It is pleasant to be assured that the challenger for the America's cup was greatly pleased by the song and asked for a repeat. The verse quoted expresses the American sentiment on this subject about as accurately as possible. There is no snobbish hope that Lipton may take the cup. But there is a hearty and sincere feeling that he is entitled to it if any one is. It is a far cry from Lipton to Dmavren and the former has done a great deal to eliminate the unpleasant recollection left by his predecessor as a challenger.—Washington Star.

## Coin Is Plentiful for Hustlers.

Kansas is advertising for 5,000 men to harvest her wheat crop. The prevailing wage is \$3 a day, and yet there are thousands of men sitting on dry goods boxes at country stores roasting the government because they have not received their share of the per capita circulation.—Chattanooga News.

## Troops Needed at Home.

It begins to look as if it might be a good plan to take some of our troops from the Philippines and garrison them in American cities, where the civilization is older, but seemingly less reliable.—Detroit Journal.

## Much Water Not Necessary.

Ordinarily the American naval officers draw too much water for the Thames but doubtless London will add a sufficient amount of Scotch and ice.—Grand Rapids Press.

## At St. Paul Theaters

## "The Two Orphans" at the Metropolitan.

The largest house which has greeted the Ferris Stock company during its present summer engagement was at the Metropolitan last night to see "The Two Orphans." DeMery's great emotional drama, with which the company opened the tenth week of its summer engagement. That the play is every bit as popular as it was twenty or thirty years ago was indicated by the liberal applause accorded it.

The principal parts were in capable hands and the piece as produced last night was very acceptable to the audience. Blanche Alexander as Henriette, and Emily Bain as Louise, the two orphans, acquitted themselves creditably and the play apparently lost nothing by the absence from the cast of Miss Mattie Choate, who has been playing the leading roles, Lillian Allen, as La Frochard, the old hag, contributed more than any other person in the cast to the success of the play, her interpretation being vigorous and natural as well as for her admiration of all. Miss Orris Ober, as Marianne, an outcast, took advantage of the opportunity afforded her in the first act to display her ability in the emotional line.

Frederick Montague did well as Chevalier. Maurice De Vaudry, although he could have injected more spirit into the lines he spoke. Charles Burnham, as Picard, the valet to the Chevalier, was the signal for applause every time he made his appearance and deservedly so. The work of Lon Beasley, as Jacques Frochard, the outlaw and favorite of his mother, La Frochard, was not what might have been expected, nor was it so good as that of Frederick Clarke, who took the part of the cripple, Pierre Frochard. The duel between the two brothers in the closing act is hardly one which would cause an audience to thrill and could be improved upon considerably.

The play, however, causes one to forget minor defects, and as produced was most pleasing to the audience that witnessed it. "The Two Orphans" will be in at the Metropolitan the remainder of the week.

## OUTLAW QUEEN IS AT LAST CAPTURED

For Many Years She Has Escaped Clutches of Law.

GUTHRIE, Okla., July 26.—Dora Cox, an alleged horse thief, has been recaptured and placed in jail at Watonga after successfully eluding the officers since 1898, when she escaped from the county jail at Kingfisher. The woman had been a member of a gang of territorial outlaws.

## Finlanders Fight Fatally.

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich., July 26.—Matt Makie, a Finlander, shot and instantly killed Sam Hall after a quarrel that originated with Finlanders expected early today. The dead man had been in the United States but a few months.

## TALKIN' 'BOUT TROUBLE.

"This world's so full o' trouble,"  
An' I wonder if it really is,  
Or only seems that way.  
An' I wonder if the folks who find  
This world so very bad,  
Are lookin' with their smilin' eyes,  
Or eyes just lookin' sad.

I wonder if they're lookin' out  
For trouble, or if they're lookin' in.  
By thinkin'—not about themselves—  
But thinkin' some 'bout you.  
An' I wonder if they ever find  
To get braced up with this—  
A lookin' round to see how much  
Of trouble they could miss?

An' have you ever thought about  
Walkin' if you've not, it might be well  
To try it for a while.  
Because a smile do you good  
No matter where you go.  
For frowns are mighty common things,  
(An' we all know that's so!)

But say, can anybody tell  
Why smiles should come so high,  
An' frowns should be such common things?  
Beneath the self-same sky?  
If folks could only know how much  
They lose by lookin' sad,  
They'd all cheer up an' spend their time  
A tryin' to look glad.

For every time you hide a sigh  
Behind a smiling face,  
You've look a burden from your soul,  
An' you're carryin' it all home.  
An' he's the one who loves to see  
His children lookin' gay,  
An' not a happy face in the house,  
An' makin' good his way.

An' if you think you've had too much,  
An' things ain't even now,  
May be you'll find out by an' by  
That there's a load on you now.  
An' I believe before you die  
You'll see 'twas for the best,  
An' not a happy face in the house,  
That mostly, you've been blest.

An' that your troubles made you big  
An' char't the air's strong.  
An' 'stead of bein' sad,  
You'd be a good long;  
An' if you hadn't had 'em  
You could never understand;  
An' not a happy face in the house,  
Do you really think you could?

—Chicago Chronicle.

## TODAY'S WEATHER.

WASHINGTON, July 26.—Forecast: Minnesota—Fair, warmer Monday; Tuesday—showers; light variable winds, becoming southerly.

Upper Michigan and Wisconsin—Fair Monday; Tuesday, fair, warmer; light, variable winds.

North Dakota—Showers Monday; Tuesday, fair.

South Dakota—Scattered local rains and showers Monday; Tuesday, fair.

Iowa—Fair Monday and Tuesday; Montana—Showers and not so warm Monday; Tuesday, fair.

Temperatures.—St. Paul, 73; Minneapolis, 74; St. Louis, 75; Chicago, 76; New York, 77; Philadelphia, 78; Baltimore, 79; Washington, 80; San Francisco, 62; San Antonio, 63; Dallas, 64; Houston, 65; New Orleans, 66; Mobile, 67; Savannah, 68; Jacksonville, 69; Miami, 70; Tampa, 71; Key West, 72.

Barometer.—St. Paul, 30.1; Minneapolis, 30.2; St. Louis, 30.3; Chicago, 30.4; New York, 30.5; Philadelphia, 30.6; Baltimore, 30.7; Washington, 30.8; San Francisco, 30.9; San Antonio, 31.0; Dallas, 31.1; Houston, 31.2; New Orleans, 31.3; Mobile, 31.4; Savannah, 31.5; Jacksonville, 31.6; Miami, 31.7; Tampa, 31.8; Key West, 31.9.

Wind.—St. Paul, S. by E. 10; Minneapolis, S. by E. 12; St. Louis, S. by E. 14; Chicago, S. by E. 16; New York, S. by E. 18; Philadelphia, S. by E. 20; Baltimore, S. by E. 22; Washington, S. by E. 24; San Francisco, S. by E. 26; San Antonio, S. by E. 28; Dallas, S. by E. 30; Houston, S. by E. 32; New Orleans, S. by E. 34; Mobile, S. by E. 36; Savannah, S. by E. 38; Jacksonville, S. by E. 40; Miami, S. by E. 42; Tampa, S. by E. 44; Key West, S. by E. 46.

Relative Humidity.—St. Paul, 75; Minneapolis, 76; St. Louis, 77; Chicago, 78; New York, 79; Philadelphia, 80; Baltimore, 81; Washington, 82; San Francisco, 83; San Antonio, 84; Dallas, 85; Houston, 86; New Orleans, 87; Mobile, 88; Savannah, 89; Jacksonville, 90; Miami, 91; Tampa, 92; Key West, 93.

Direction of Wind.—St. Paul, S. by E.; Minneapolis, S. by E.; St. Louis, S. by E.; Chicago, S. by E.; New York, S. by E.; Philadelphia, S. by E.; Baltimore, S. by E.; Washington, S. by E.; San Francisco, S. by E.; San Antonio, S. by E.; Dallas, S. by E.; Houston, S. by E.; New Orleans, S. by E.; Mobile, S. by E.; Savannah, S. by E.; Jacksonville, S. by E.; Miami, S. by E.; Tampa, S. by E.; Key West, S. by E.

Force of Wind.—St. Paul, 10; Minneapolis, 12; St. Louis, 14; Chicago, 16; New York, 18; Philadelphia, 20; Baltimore, 22; Washington, 24; San Francisco, 26; San Antonio, 28; Dallas, 30; Houston, 32; New Orleans, 34; Mobile, 36; Savannah, 38; Jacksonville, 40; Miami, 42; Tampa, 44; Key West, 46.

State of Sky.—St. Paul, Partly Cloudy; Minneapolis, Partly Cloudy; St. Louis, Partly Cloudy; Chicago, Partly Cloudy; New York, Partly Cloudy; Philadelphia, Partly Cloudy; Baltimore, Partly Cloudy; Washington, Partly Cloudy; San Francisco, Partly Cloudy; San Antonio, Partly Cloudy; Dallas, Partly Cloudy; Houston, Partly Cloudy; New Orleans, Partly Cloudy; Mobile, Partly Cloudy; Savannah, Partly Cloudy; Jacksonville, Partly Cloudy; Miami, Partly Cloudy; Tampa, Partly Cloudy; Key West, Partly Cloudy.

## MEXICAN ROADS INCREASE RATES

## Advance Authorized by the Government to Offset Depreciation in Silver.

MEXICO CITY, July 26.—The government has issued a decree granting to the railroads such an increase in their passenger and freight rates as will practically put them on the same basis as though their receipts were in 50 cent dollars. The decree was issued in response to a request from the Mexican Central and Mexican & International railroads that they be permitted to increase their rates on account of the continued depreciation of silver. The decree states that during the remainder of the present year railway companies shall be authorized to make a 15 per cent increase in their traffic, with the exception of corn, wheat, cotton, firewood, charcoal, coal and all articles of export, it being understood that inasmuch as this authority is granted in favor of the present rate of exchange the said increase would be suspended should exchange fall to 220 or less. The action of the government is praised as an indication of its desire to do justice to corporations having gold interest to meet abroad, and which have to buy heavily of supply in the United States and elsewhere in gold prices. The reason why the rate is restricted to the remainder of the present year is understood to be the hope that by January 1 the peso will be stabilized probably at 50 cents gold value.

The increase in rates applies to passengers as well as to freight charges.

## NEBRASKA SUFFERS SEVERE HEAT

Lack of Moisture Also Having Bad Effect on Corn.

OMAHA, Neb., July 26.—Extreme hot weather prevailed throughout Nebraska and Western Iowa today, the maximum in Omaha being 93. On the streets the mercury reached a much higher point, and the humidity was very great. At Schuyler, one death, that of Rupert Barne, was caused by the heat. The weather bureau promises no immediate relief. Two points report hot winds, and these, with lack of moisture, are beginning to have a serious effect on growing corn.

## ONE SPECIAL SESSION ENDS IN COLORADO

Governor Refuses to Call Second Special Meeting for Further Work.

DENVER, Colo., July 26.—The general assembly adjourned at 6 o'clock this morning after having passed a general appropriation bill for which the session was called. The house defeated the senate joint resolution calling upon the world's fair board to disband. Gov. Peabody refused to issue a supplementary call for a special session to consider an eight-hour bill.

## Train Kills Three.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., July 26.—Joshua Butler, wife and infant child were struck by the east-bound Black Diamond express on the Lehigh Valley railroad late this afternoon while driving across the track at Port Bowley, six miles from here, and all three are dead. The house was also killed and the carriage demolished.

## Meant to Be Funny

## A Sock Symposium.

(In an endeavor to fix the status of the sixteen-inch sock for women. Scissors has sent out a staff of interviewers for opinions upon the new low-cut fad. Here are some results:)

M. O. Skito—I am heartily in favor of the sock. It is both comfortable and cool, and is very convenient for a quick lunch.

F. Lea—The sock does not affect our line of activity. We get there just the same.

R. Ed Ant—The sock is the logical evolution of the open-work stocking. The tendency is toward going barefoot. However, a mere bluff at wearing something heightened the sale of the costume. All we fear is a reaction in the direction of rubber boots.

M. I. Crobe—Have no criticism to make of the sock, unless it is that we are subjected to a sudden change in diet whenever the lady of the house confiscates papa's socks to wear on a shopping tour.

Raney Day—They are coming into deserved popularity. Let the good work go on.—Omaha News.

## COURTIN'.

I rely don't know 'zackly why I like to gaze in Mandie's eye. I never could quite understand 'jes' why I like to hold her hand.

Most times I'm restless as kin be, when she's put her precious me! I could keep quiet for a week in hopes that she was goin' to speak.

I like to watch the sunbeams there A-playin' in her wavy hair. I'm happy, yes, I'm happy, yes; I rely don't know 'zackly why.

—Washington Star.

## One-Sided.

"Miss Gabbie seems like a pleasant person to talk to."

"Why—she doesn't seem to think so."

"She seems to think she's a pleasant person to listen to."—Philadelphia Press.

## Rich Ground.

"The flowers along your garden fence seem to grow better than any of the others," remarked the visitor.

"Yes," explained the host. "That's where we have always buried the neighbor's cats."—Chicago Inter Ocean.

## Nothing Improbable in It.

"This paper says there are 100,000,000 toothpicks made in the United States every day. What do you think of that statement?"

"I don't surprise me at all. I have seen so many men on the streets every day chewing their toothpicks that my system was prepared for a much greater shock than that."—Chicago Inter Ocean.

## AN ITALIAN REPRISAL

BY HELEN M. GIVINS.

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When Willis ran into St. Peter's to escape one of the sudden downpours so prevalent in Rome during the summer months, he was still possessed by the sense of injury that had been his ever since he had hurried down the slope of the Janiculum an hour before, and had failed to see little Rosetta leaning over the wall near Tasso's oak.

At their last meeting, as she told him, between the bursts of weeping, of her father's determination to have her wedding take place within a month, Willis had understood the necessity of putting an end to the romance an idle spring day and a peasant's fete had been responsible for.

It had all been idyllic and innocent enough. Being a good fellow in the main, and moreover, not wildly in love, Willis was capable of a sharp twinge of conscience when he realized the child's distaste for a marriage about which she had at first prattled happily enough. But Rosetta was so pretty, so full of distress! Who could resist the temptation of seeing her once more? Besides, had he not promised himself to speak wisely and firmly, as became mature twenty-three when advising inexperienced seventeen?

Such, however, is man's inconsistency, that when the trusting maiden appeared, void of the trusting maiden, he experienced none of the satisfaction popularly supposed to reward the virtuous. It is one thing to confront a pair of beseeching black eyes, in the red and white representative of duty, and quite another to be anticipated, to find the play played out and the curtain rung down, without any of the plaudits so dear to self-sacrifice.

Now, avoiding a procession of damp pilgrims, in whom the odor of humanity predominated over that of sanctity, the young man strolled down the great nave, his lowered head and thoughts bitterly intent upon the constancy of woman. Thus he did not notice a bucket dangling from the end of a rope until he struck sharply against it. As he recoiled it rose in the air and he saw it was a rude device for carrying water to some workmen who were repairing the mosaics ornamenting the dome. Willis' lip curled with English intolerance at such methods—his glance following the unwieldy contrivance until it reached a haven under a board stretched from side to side of the railing surrounding the dome.

"The signore might perhaps like to see the work nearer. It is very interesting," said a low-toned voice at his elbow. In Italian play of action, the young man turned quickly, encountering a pair of brilliant, shifty eyes, set in a handsome face of the better type of peasant.

"It is forbidden to enter the dome during repairs," he replied curtly in the same tongue.

"But I have a brother among the workmen. See, I am taking him to the macaroni," holding up a small basket, as he spoke. Then, as Willis shook his head impatiently, he added: "The old sacristan is also my uncle, so, if the signore pleases, I will gladly conduct him to the dome."

Willis looked at the speaker with more interest. Rosetta had once pointed out the sacristan, speaking of his great age and of his relationship to her. Could this young man be the cousin lover against whom the girl rebelled? His good looks deserved a stronger hold upon her fancy.

"How did you know I understood Italian?" Willis demanded abruptly.

"I heard the signore speak to a beggar at the door."

Evidently the fellow had been following him. That he should wish to conduct him to the dome was a singular coincidence; but he dismissed as improbable the idea of any stronger motive than that of a desire for a free ride, and, moved by an unexplainable impulse, he determined to accept the offer he had been on the point of declining.

Ten minutes later, stepping through the doorway opening upon the narrow platform surrounding the dome, he heard a sharp click behind him, and turned to see his companion coolly pocket the key he had just removed from the lock.

"The signore appears surprised," he said, regarding Willis with a smile of triumphant malice. "He has perhaps never seen a rat caught in a trap. To understand, he must first regard the scaffolding enclosing the platform on the left as the entrance."

The other had mechanically turned to the point indicated. Certainly the left was completely blocked by the scaffolding; but no matter—they could pass to the right.

Still that smile of triumphant malice. Willis made a step forward, but recognizing rather late the value of discretion, paused before the steely glare of a stiletto. Nevertheless he returned the Italian's gaze without flinching, leaning against the wall, and thrusting his hands nonchalantly into his pockets.