

BENEDICT GORDON.

By REVERE ROGERS.

[Written for the SUNDAY GLOBE.]

CHAPTER XVI.

"Awful, awful," declared Helen, laughing merrily, in which pleasant exercise the genial little attorney joined with a right good will. "And then there is another picture in which Jollyby and the office boy and the porter and myself, attired in a bathing suit of gaudy colors, am leading the procession with a shovel held up in my hand, and my feet, well they are ridiculous objects indeed, all covered with bunions and corns, and the coincidence," said Mr. Larkins, "is that I have both bunions and corns, but, of course, not near so many or so unsightly ones as Mr. Gordon would have people to believe from the picture. It is an amazingly funny picture, Helen, but parading is more in Jollyby's line than it is in mine."

choice spirits to drink, talk horse, and to play cards or billiards. Saunders was very much in evidence at these nightly gatherings and among his particular set he was recognized as the leader. Being descended from one of the finest families in the town, he had the ease into the best society, and while it was generally known that he had pretty well managed to make way with rather ample fortune left to him upon the death of his parents, yet no one took the trouble to inquire into Saunders means of living and dressing well, though it was known that he neither sought or desired employment. Several weeks have elapsed since the murder of old Frederick Allwine, and though the police have been most thorough and energetic in their efforts to clear up the mystery, as well as to claim the reward, not a single clue have they unearthed. The subject has long since failed in its popularity, as the chief topic of conversation, and there are many knowing ones who confidently assert that the murder will forever remain a mystery. Saunders has shown a wonderful degree of composure all through the period when the Allwinemurder was upon the tongue of everyone. His cool, *sans peur* and serene manner has never deserted him once since he recovered from his first fright immediately after the murder had been committed. Indeed the hardihood of the impudent scoundrel is amazing when you take into consideration the fact that he, a man of gentle birth and refined surroundings, never before in trouble of any kind, should so calmly view such an atrocious crime as the dastardly assassination of Frederick Allwine. But now a new topic for discussion has lately arisen among the populace and is being talked of in every home and public house in the town. It deals with the several mysterious burglaries which have lately occurred in the vicinity, the work of thieves evidently acquainted with the interior as well as the exterior of the houses ransacked. Theories upon theories have been advanced, argued on and finally thrown aside to make way for newer and more original creations of excited brains, and yet in the end the solution of the mystery is as far from being solved as it was at the beginning. At the Union Hotel, where Saunders and his cronies congregated, the talk on the matter is just as prominent a feature of the general conversation as it is elsewhere in the town. The bartenders of the hotel bar have grown weary of the whole discussion. Their opinion has been solicited hundreds of times during the day and night! And right here I would like to make a little digression, and ask the public why it is that during any great or unusual event which requires discussion that bartenders are always supposed to be possessed of profound reasoning powers, and of a general analytical turn of mind sufficient to solve the greatest events, or the most complex questions of the day, and yet, strange as this statement may seem to persons who never enter restaurants, still it is a positive fact which I am telling you. I have myself heard these mixers of drinks appealed to upon questions of history, poetry, music, athletics, theaters, and as for politics, well, every bartender is popularly supposed to be a born politician. He is supposed to have the whole political history of this country at his finger's end. Said one of these genial personages to me: "The Nicaragua Canal Bill has given me more downright trouble and annoyance than it has Senator Morgan. I confess that I know practically nothing about it, and yet if you were to hear the questions asked me by the men who drink here you would imagine that it was a sort of 'toss up' who had the most knowledge of the subject, myself or the father of the bill, Senator Morgan. 'Tis the same with athletics, something which I do not care at all about, and yet if you were to see me and several of my customers discussing the merits of this outfielder or that infielder, you would imagine that the name 'fanatic' would just about apply to my case, and as a matter of fact, I never saw more than a half dozen baseball games in my life. Then again if there is one subject that disgusts me more than another it is pugilism, and still, you will hear me or any other man in this business, eagerly discussing the merits or demerits of this or that fighter with present day men of his profession, or the 'Pugs' of long ago—and whenever a question arises as to some statement made by one of the party, I am appealed to as though I were a handy 'Book of Reference,' and all that were needful was to open me at the letter 'P' and run your eye down the column and secure the information necessary to settle the argument. "Now, what do I know about yacht racing? Practically nothing. Yet if you were to hear me explaining difficult questions asked me by my customers, you might possibly imagine that my whole heart and soul was in the sport. During those international yacht races up in New York, questions were asked me on every point embracing a yacht, and when you consider the fact that I know just about as much concerning a yacht as I do about one of Santos Dumont's airships you can appreciate my troubles at the times of which I speak. But the strangest thing, perhaps, is the idea which possesses men who patronize restaurants that if the man behind the bar fails to simulate a burning interest in whatever subject is brought up for argument—no matter how many or how widely different they may be—I say if the bartender fails to appear greatly interested, he is at once put down as a churlish fellow and thereby loses trade by his lack of diplomacy. "If you were to see me, or any other bartender, for that matter, at the beginning of the fishing season, discussing the quality of bait to be used in catching this or that kind of fish, you would imagine that we were old and experienced fishermen, and nine chances out of ten neither man had ever fished since he was a boy, and then used a bin for a hook, a worm for a bait, and caught nothing larger or heavier than a minnow. "It's the same way, too, during the hunting season. I remember of once going out hunting in company with some other boys, and an old time Mexican army musket. This was my first and last experience in hunting, and the Mexican army musket was the first and last attempt I ever made to discharge a firearm. You can see by my confession what an authority I must be on the subject of hunting. But come in here any day or evening during the hunting season and hear the questions asked me, and hear me give my learned decisions regarding the same. One man will say that to-day would be a jolly day to go after rabbits. I immediately agree with him. Another man a few moments later will make known the fact that of all the days he has ever seen, to-day would be the worst to attempt to hunt rabbits. I am heartily of his opinion; and so it goes. I must decide with everyone, evincing at the same time a

most profound interest in the subject up for discussion. "Then we have the men who desire my opinion on the merits of their guns; I am truly ashamed of myself at times; sighting the gun; looking down into its barrels; locking the trigger; feeling the weight of it; and all this done with a deliberation and a show of interest that even an old frontiersman could not surpass. Still it seems to be a part of our business to evince an interest in every topic under the sun. "But say, if anything bores me worse than another, it is poetry, and yet a crowd of fellows will get in here sometimes, and perhaps one or two will recite a couple of verses of poetry, and forget who wrote the same; then will start an argument as to the author of such and such a verse, and I never yet in an argument of this kind knew any two men to hit upon the same poet; yet each and every man appears to be dead certain about the man who wrote the piece. Say, I have seen fellows who were never known to read a book, and barely able to do so if they desired; 'burr in' to an argument of this kind with the name of some man no one else ever heard of, and stoutly contend that he was the 'duffer' who wrote the verse. "However, when the argument has reached its height, I, who know nothing of poetry, and think a great deal less, am appealed to, to set the whole crowd right. Does diplomacy enter just then? Well, I guess yes. "My views upon classic music are also much sought at times. This is another subject that I am supposed to be enraptured over; when as a matter of fact my appreciation of and understanding of classic music is to say the least, most modest. A good musical comedy or vaudeville performance is about my limit. Still, I must give my decision upon the merits of Chopin, Wagner, Verdi, and a lot of other fellows, whom I never so much as heard of, until they are brought up for discussion. "Another musical faculty that I am popularly supposed to possess, is the distinguishing of airs, whistled by my patrons. Every little while some one will amble up to the bar and ask me to listen for a few moments to him, while he whistles a tune, which 'has been running through his head all day,' and he wants me to satisfy him as to whether the air is from Faust, 'The Flying Dutchman,' or 'Iolanthe,' he being positive it is from one of the three. From the manner in which he executes the melody, it is doubtful whether any composer in the world could tell him whence came the air, and in this manner the bartender passes the time while on duty. "And in such a manner did the bartenders employed at the Union Hotel in Georgetown, pass their time during the period when the air was rife with the discussions regarding the many mysterious burglaries then being committed in the old town. WHICH PAIN THE WORST? An Old Surgeon Says Mental Suffering is the Easier to Bear. "One frequently hears it said," remarked a veterinary surgeon, chatting in his office recently, "that mental suffering is a great deal harder to bear than physical suffering, but the people who make the assertion are usually people who know very little about bodily pain. They have a vague idea that a capacity for mental anguish indicates a fine high-strung spirit, while there is something gross about a sensitiveness to physical discomfort. Such a theory is pure rubbish, and the facts in a general way are quite to the contrary. "It is your thoroughbred, your refined, highly intellectual person who is most susceptible to brute pain, and your rough, illiterate, dull-witted fellow who is driven to distraction by a tormented mind. I suppose the explanation is that the stupid, uneducated man is unable to bring any philosophy to bear on his troubles, while on the other hand the nerves of the cultured chap have been sharpened by civilization. But as far as my observation goes, pain, physical pain, is the great leveler. Be the form what it may—wounded flesh—a given amount of it will hunger, thirst, exhaustion or the agony of, reduce all men to about the same status. "I got my first lesson in that line when I was a soldier in the Civil War, and I have been getting them ever since at the operating table and the bedside. I beg to doubt whether there is a single human being who can retain his or her nobility of character under continued bodily distress. Oh, yes, I know what you are going to say—that there are in valids and cripples whose temper has only been sweetened by years of torture. Such cases prove nothing, nothing at all. They think they are suffering continually, but they are not. There are long intervals of relief and quietude. "Take my word for it, that pain destroys moral fibre as surely as fire destroys wood, and that, by the way, is what made the rack such a great success as an instrument of judicial inquiry in the good old days. An industrious judge with a well made rack never had any reason to lack of corroboratory evidence. Curious Freaks of Insane Persons. A Belgian physician, speaking of simulation by the insane, says that in cases of insanity where the intellectual faculties are not too much disordered the insane may simulate another form of insanity than their own. The forms of insanity most often simulated are, in order of frequency, imbecility, dementia and mania. The other forms are not so frequently simulated. A lunatic generally simulates insanity to escape punishment, and an expert physician should not therefore in such cases be satisfied with a diagnosis of simulation. Such diagnosis does not exclude real insanity, and the physician should therefore endeavor to ascertain whether or not the simulator is himself a lunatic. With care, patience and a long continued observation it is possible to make a complete and correct diagnosis, and this is the more important, as in these cases the serious question of responsibility arises. A Boy Ought to Know. 1. That a quiet voice, courtesy and kind acts are essential to the part in the world of a gentleman as a gentleman. 2. That roughness, blustering, and even foolishness are not manliness. The most firm and courageous men have usually been the most gentle. 3. That muscular strength is not health. 4. That the brain crammed with facts is not necessarily a wise one. 5. That the labor impossible to a boy of fourteen will be easy to the man of twenty. 6. That the best capital for a boy is not money, but the love of work, simple tastes and a heart loyal to his friends and his God. Read the SUNDAY GLOBE.

THE GREAT FIRES

Foreign and American and the Losses Therefrom

ANCIENT AND MODERN

The Historical Fires Including the Alexandrian Library, the Pillage of Jerusalem, the Great Roman Conflagration, the Moscow and the London Great Fires—Early Colonial Losses by This Element—Interesting Compilation. Among the great fires of history, undoubtedly the burning of the Serapeum Library, at Alexandria, in the year 640 by the Caliph Omar I., is most widely mourned as the destruction of 500,000 volumes cut off much of the record of human knowledge at that time. The general impression of the importance and significance of this fire is, no doubt, augmented in great measure by the alleged answer of this Saracen conqueror, who replied to the protest against the burning with: "If these books are against the Koran, they are pernicious and must be destroyed. If they agree with the Koran they are redundant and need not be preserved;" and it is not generally remembered that Julius Cesar burned a large library of 700,000 volumes at Alexandria, known as the Brucian Library, B. C., 48, nearly 700 years before the burning of the Serapeum Library by Omar I. At times of sack and pillage Jerusalem has been burned time and again, the most noted instance being at the siege by the Romans under Titus during the year 70, when a faction called the Sicaristi set the city on fire in many places and eventually 1,000,000 of the inhabitants perished by fire and the sword. Constantinople has, like all Oriental cities, suffered severely from fires, a large part of such losses being undoubtedly due to the fatalism of the Mohammedans who bow to their kismet. Said a Sultan: "If it be the will of the Allah that my favorite city burn it is the will of Allah." In Dillaway's quaint account of travels in the Levant in 1797 it is stated that the Sultan is summoned three times to a fire in Constantinople, if the fire lasts one hour he is obliged to attend in person and bring mules laden with money for the firemen. A great fire at Rome, 12 B. C., caused the Emperor Augustus to take measures for increasing the defense against fire, which had hitherto been in the hands of bodies of police, numbering twenty or thirty, and stationed in various parts of the city, and volunteers. He appointed new officers with the rank of magistrates, and they were entitled to wear magistrates' robes. Each was attended by two lieutenants and provided with fire organizations of 600 slaves. It is probable that this was not entirely satisfactory in its operation, because six years later another fire caused him to undertake further reforms on a scale fully characteristic of him who "found the city built of brick and left it with palaces of marble." He increased the fire department to a scale commensurate with the needs of the city. Seven thousand firemen were organized into seven battalions, and a battalion was quartered in every alternate ward of the city. These men made careful inspections of the kitchens, of the heating apparatus and of the water supply in the houses, and every fire was the subject of judicial examination. The cost of the organization was maintained by a tax of twenty-five per cent. on the sale of slaves. Two notable examples of contagions stopped by conflagrations are the burning of Moscow by the besieging Tartars in July, 1570, when the plague was stopped, and the second fire in London, September 2, 1666, which also stopped the plague, and it has been unknown since. This London fire is probably called the great fire of modern history, because the forms which were started by consequence of it are living issues in municipal affairs of to-day. The fire was caused by an overheated baker's oven, and in the course of four days it swept over 436 acres, burning 13,200 houses, 89 churches and St. Paul's Cathedral, causing a damage estimated to be £10,716,000, say \$53,300,000. Under the direction of Pepys the fire was stopped by blowing up buildings, which was at the time the only method of reducing a fire that had grown beyond the capacity of small fire engines. These were on large tubs, and threw a stream of water directly on the fire, as hose was not invented until ten years later (1672) by Van der Heide. The cities of America, on account of the larger amount of wood in their construction and the prevalence of irresponsible methods of building, have suffered severely from fires. The most devastating fire in America was probably the one occurring at Boston, March 30, 1760, when 400 dwellings and stores were burned, causing a loss of \$500,000. In the Colony of Massachusetts Bay regulations in regard to the construction of chimneys and thatched roofs were made as early as March 16, 1630, and various enactments were made at later dates. The ordinance at the town meeting of Boston, March 14, 1645, made provision that each household should have ladders long enough to reach to the ridge of the house, and a pole "about twelve feet long, with a good large swab at the end of it," and various graded penalties were provided for those not conforming to the law. New York was visited by a severe conflagration in the southern part of the city on December 16, 1835, which extended over an area of forty acres, destroying 674 houses and causing a loss which has been estimated as high as \$30,000,000, on which there was only \$8,000,000 insurance—an amount which ruined several insurance companies. One of the first of the more recent conflagrations was the burning of Portland, Me., July 4, 1866. The fire was caused by throwing a firecracker into a cooper's shop for the avowed purpose of scaring the workmen. In this respect the act was an unparalleled success, the damage being about \$10,000,000. The Chicago fire, October 9, 1871, was one of the largest in all history, devastating an area of three and one-half square miles and causing a loss of about \$190,000,000, on which insurance was paid to the amount of \$100,000,000. Two hundred and forty lives were reported lost in this fire. Thirteen months later to a day Boston was visited by a fire which extended over an area of sixty-five acres, burning the best mercantile buildings in the city and causing a damage of \$75,000,000, on which there was an insurance of over \$65,000,000.

WASHINGTON DIRECTORY.

Standing Information for Visitors and Residents Alike. Divisions, Streets, Parks, and Noted Show Places.

Special Information. The Capitol—Open 9 a. m. Guides to be found in Rotunda. Corcoran Art Gallery—Open 10 to 4. Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday free days. War, Navy, and State Department—Open 9 to 2. In the Library of the State Department may be seen original Declaration of Independence. Executive Mansion—Open 10 to 2. The President receives Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays at 1 p. m. sharp. Treasury Department—Open 9 to 2. Bureau Engraving and Printing—Open 9:30 to 12:30 and 1 to 2. Washington Monument—Open to visitors every week-day. Elevator runs from 9 to 12 a. m. and 1 to 5 p. m. Agricultural Department—Open 9 to 2. Smithsonian Institute—National Museum—Open 9:30 to 4:30. The Government Botanical Gardens—Open 9 to 5. Patent Office—Open 9 to 2. Pension Building—Open 9 to 2. Navy Yard—Open 8 to 4:30. Marine Barracks—Concerts by the Marine Band every Monday at 11 a. m. and 1:30 p. m. Guard Mount daily at 9 a. m. Prominent Drives—Soldiers' Home, Arlington Heights, Woodley Park, Zoological Gardens and Naval Observatory. Carriages may be ordered at Hotel offices. Mt. Vernon—Boat leaves wharf, foot of Seventh street, on the half hour; electric cars on the hour from 13½ street and Pennsylvania avenue. Government Printing Office—North Capitol and H streets. The Library—Open 9 a. m. to 10 p. m. Historical and Show Places of the City. Treasury Department. Church where President Hayes attended. Former site of the historic Colonial Hotel. U. S. Geological Survey. Ford's Theater (where Lincoln was assassinated). House in which President Lincoln died. Alley through which Booth escaped after assassinating Lincoln. Building in which Admiral Schley was made a Mason in an extraordinary manner. Interior Department. Patent Office. General Land Office. Pension Office. Judiciary Square. City Hall Park. City Hall. Former worshipping place of Daniel Webster. District Police Court. Daniel Webster's old law office. Washington Monument. Hancock Statue. Church attended by President McKinley. Church attended by President Grant and General Logan. One of the famous church spires of the world. Room in which Henry Clay died. National Hotel. Metropolitan M. E. Church. U. S. Mail Bag Repair Shop. Stable from which Booth hired his horse the night he assassinated Lincoln. District Building. Room in which assassin Guiteau was tried and convicted. Lot Flannery Monument of Lincoln. Church attended by President Cleveland. DeWitt Talmage's old church. Statue of Albert Pike. Building in which an Abolition Club was mobbed. Census Office. House built by General Washington. Senate Stables. Capitol. Capitol Grounds. Greenough's statue of General Washington. Congressional Library. Lincoln Park. Lincoln and Slave Statue. District Jail. Former home of Fred Douglass. Place of Guiteau's execution. General Greene's Statue. Old Capital Building. Political Prison during Civil War. General Butler's former residence. "Bridge of Sighs." Only church on which bell tolled at death of John Brown. The "Coliseum." Marine Hospital. Coast and Geodetic Survey. Eastern Dispensary. Old Slave Market. Oldest House on Capitol Hill. Government Printing Office. Old Jewish Synagogue. Bureau of Education. Calvary Baptist Church. New Jewish Temple. National Rifles Armory. Carroll Hall. Scottish Rite Temple. Site of old Kirkwood Hotel, where Vice-President Andrew Johnson took the oath of office on morning of President Lincoln's death. Southern Railway Building. New Willard. Chase's Grand Opera House. Panoram Building. Emergency Hospital. The Mall. Propagating Ponds, U. S. Fish Commission. Bureau of Engraving and Printing. Bureau of Animal Industry.

Agricultural Department. Hot-house in which the seedless oranges were developed. Post-office. Smithsonian Institute. National Museum. Lee Mausoleum. Old Long Bridge. Reclaimed Flats. St. John's Old German Lutheran Church. Garfield Statue. U. S. Fish Commission. Army Medical Museum. The Botanical Gardens. Chinatown. Room in which President Garfield was shot. Window through which Guiteau watched for the approach of President Garfield. Center Market. Former home of Henry Clay. Site of former home of Aaron Burr. National Rifles Armory. District National Guard Headquarters. General Rawlings Statue. Haymarket. Peace Monument. Dead Letter Office. U. S. Civil Service Commission. St. Patrick's Church. St. Vincent's Asylum. Building in which Pan American Congress met. Building in which Venezuelan Commission was organized. Office of the Interstate Commerce Commissioners. New York Avenue Presbyterian Church. George H. Thomas' Statue. Home of Columbia Athletic Club. Church from which Phil. Sheridan was buried. Chamberlain's. McPherson's Statue. St. Matthew's Church. Hotel built by Levi P. Morton while Vice-President. Home of Thomas B. Reed while Speaker of the House of Representatives. Charles Sumner's former residence. Sir Henry Bulwer's former residence. Owen Meredith's residence when he wrote "Lucile." St. John's Church. General Scott's Statue. Secretary of State, John Hay's residence. Former home of Daniel Webster. Building in which Ashburton Treaty was discussed and concluded. W. W. Corcoran's former home. Army and Navy Club. George Bancroft's former home. Farragut Statue and Square. Mrs. Washington McLean's home. Academy of the Visitation. Admiral Dewey's Home. Church of the Covenant. Church from which General Lawton and James G. Blaine were buried. Dupont Circle. Stewart Castle. Dupont Statue. Blaine Mansion. West End Market. Rock Creek. Stream where Robert Fulton tested his steamship. House where Lafayette visited. Site of houses occupied by President Diaz of Mexico; Adelina Patti, Don Pedro, Emperor of Brazil, and Wm. Henry Harrison. Musket-barrel Fence. House given to Daniel Webster by his American admirers. Headquarters of Spanish Treaty Claims Commission. Naval Observatory. Chapel and entrance to Oak Hill Cemetery. First house built by a colored freeman. Burial place of author of "Home, Sweet Home." Burial place of James G. Blaine. German Lutheran Chapel. Georgetown Convent. Georgetown College. New and Old Trinity Catholic Church. Residence of Mrs. E. D. E. N. Southworth, novelist. Aqueduct Bridge. Fort Meyer. Site of new Memorial Bridge. Former home of the writer of the "Star Spangled Banner." Gen. James Kearney's former residence. Georgetown University Hospital. Peabody Library. Old Georgetown Reservoir. Gen. Grant's headquarters during Civil War. Dumbarton Avenue M. E. Church. Houses showing the effect of "Boas" Shepherd's grading of the streets of Washington. U. S. Weather Bureau. British Embassy. Old Chilean Legation. Webster Statue. Metropolitan Club. House built by Commodore Decatur, to which he was brought in dying condition after duel at Bladensburg. Henry Clay's former home. Martin Van Buren's home while Secretary of State. Jackson Statue. War, State and Navy Building. White House. Lafayette Statue and Square. Lafayette Square Opera House. House in which would-be assassin struck Mr. Seward. Former home of Roger B. Taney, Chief Justice Supreme Court. Senator Hanna's residence. Cosmos Club. Dolly Madison's house. General McClellan's headquarters. Century Club. Captain Wilke's former residence. Columbia University, Scientific School and Law Department. French Legation. Site of John Quincy Adams' home. Church attended by Presidents Adams, Jackson and Lincoln.