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The

E.W. HORNUNG, the Amateur Cracks-

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tined to deserve that brand. He would SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS. kick no more against a fate so plain CHAPTER I-Thomas Erichesen, a young and so persistent. So he decided as Englishman, has lost the money with which he was to pay his passage out to India. He lends Captein Blaydes £35, the amount of his passage money, and in return gets a worthless check which leaves him penniless. He confesses his error to Claire Harding, his boyhood sweetheart. II—James Edward William Daintree is in love with Claire. III—Tom finds out that aaptain Blaydes is paying attention to Olaire tind is to le at her house that night. He vows to have satisfaction from Blaydes, but promises Claire that he will not seek Blaydes for two weeks. Tom meets Blaydes a few moments later and demands his £35. IV—Blaydes draws a sword came on Tom, who smashes it with a heavy stick which he carries. Blaydes has not the money, but gives Tom his gold watch, and Tom signs an agreement to pawn the watch and give the ticket to Blaydes. Tom leaves and is accosted by a deformed man, who asks the time. The next morning Blaydes is found brutally murdered beside the stile where he had been talking to Tom. V—Blaydes has been robbed of everything, among which the newspapers mention the gold watch which was really given to Tom. Tom had stopped for the night at the house of the man who was driving the coach at the time Tom met Blaydes. He is accused by the coachman of being the murderer He essapes and disguises himself, but is afraid to pawn the watch. VI—Tom spends the night Englishman, has lost the money with which he be rode, too slowly for his spirit, to deliberate crime, for despite philosophy his one immediate longing was for a gallop to rekindle blood which the murder of De Gruchy had turned from fire to ice, and a greater comfort than he would have owned to himself came of his resolve to save and protect Peggy and Miss Sullivan from this ruthless crew. Otherwise he was one of them and would play his part. But he was not yet the villain he had hoped. Objective details impressed him little at the time. And yet he was left with gum trees and a drooping moon, of the masks they all put on and the battered the pistols that they loaded and the brace of horse pistols handed to himself; the little conversation on the way, the startling of an old man kangaroo that shone an instant gray and glossy in the moonlight, then boomed and bounded into silence and the shades: of all such things, in fact, to the final plan of attack and division of villainy, made almost within sight of the devoted homestead

"Calm yourself, Calm yourself," said

were on the ground together.

high up the hook, which gleamed in

the moonlight as bright and cleanly as

"So that's all right!" said the little

gray man, adjusting his spectacles,

which had become crooked in the fray.

"Half a heart is worse than no man.

the two of them put together."

never to return alive

commit before the night was out.

coach at the time Tom met Blaydes. He is accused by the coachman of being the murderer He escapes and disguises himself, but is afraid to pawn the watch. VI—Tom spends the night in a boathouse and next day is invited into the house of a small, fat gentleman, the owner, who does his best to make him feel at home. He is betrayed by this man into the hands of the po lice for the murdec of Blaydes. VII—Claire believes him guilty. Mr. Harding hires a lawyer to see Tom. The lawyer thinks Tom is guilty and insults him in his cell. Tom throws him out. VIII—Claire gets Daintree to retain Bassett, one of the best criminal lawyers in England, to plead Tom's cause. IX—Tom is held for the next criminal sessions court. X—Claire's maid has overheard the conversation between Claire and Tom on the night of the murder, when Tom swore he would get even with Blaydes if he had to kill him to do it. The maid compels Claire to give her some of her jewels as hush money. XI—Tom is convicted of murder in the first degree. XII—Tom is placed in the condemned cell. XIII—Tom's sentence is commuted to transportation for life. XIV—Claire's engagement to Daintree is announced. The latter's father warns Claire's father against Daintree. XV.—Fom, as a convict in Australia, is bound out to the Sullivans, a peculiar and harsh family, who live far in the interior at a place dubbed Castle Sullivan. XVI—Tom meets the cook, Peggy O'Brien. Nat Sullivan, who is in love with her. becomes insanely jealous. Tom finds a man giving stolen goods in exchange for some liquor. Later the man is caught and given fifty lashes. He believes that Tom "peached." XVII—Nat Sullivan is foiled by "Tom in a scheme by which the latter would have been flogged. Later in the night he meets Peggy with Nat and accuses him indirectly of the trick. Peggy sides with Tom, and Nat attempts to strike her. Tom knocks him down. XVIII—Tom is sentenced to fifty lashes. Ho breaks away and knocks old man Sullivan down, but is caught and gets a hundred. XIX—Peggy with Nat and accuse to take p At the time, however, though Tom listened (as he thought) attentively and was much consulted in the strength of his present knowledge of the place, he grasped very little beyond his own instructions. He was to show them the overseer's hut (the night watchman would already be on their side or dead), then he was to station himself beneath the great bell and to ring it furiously so soon as Ginger was hauled out and his hut set well on fire. Tom was also to answer to the name of Francisco and to affect a foreign accent, because the Italian's terrible reputation had been the best part of

The bell and the fire were calculated to tempt both Sullivans forth unarmed. At all costs those two were to be taken alive. "And then!" said the little man, poking Wall-eye in the ribs with his CHAPTER XX (Continued.)

"What then?" inquired Tom. "We shall do unto them as we've all been done by.'

Simpson, stepping forward "But you were never here yourself?" He laid an arm upon the Frenchman's "Next door to it," returned Hookey shoulder. It was the arm that ended Simpson. "I was at Strachan's, and in a hook, but the cork still guarded this old tyrant ordered me my fifties. its terrible point. Nevertheless the We'll see how he likes them himselfman's face went white again. He just for a start." started forward, but Hookey Simpson "I wish it was Strachan's we were pushed him back. In a moment they coming to," muttered Tom, with a flash

of his former passion. This was all Tom had seen. All he "It'll be his turn next." now saw was Hookey Simpson getting to his feet, with the burst cork forced

"But when?"

"Tomorrow-if all goes well." "Then you don't mean to stop at Castle Sullivan?" cried Tom, amazed. "You'll see," rejoined Hookey, "and so shall I. There's no saying where I may stop with seventy convicts at my

Seventy convicts! That was the and as he couldn't get on without the rough number at Castle Sullivan. other heathen, why, it was the kindest Then what was this to which the little thing to do. What's more, gentlemen man was leading them? No petty rob-I rather think that our young recruit bery, after all! A grand rebellion inhere is going to prove himself worth stead! Tom's heart lightened at the thought. He gazed at the confident And Tom got a playful prod with the little man, looking more like a monkey round part of that murderous hook dressed up as a highwayman and and yet stood his ground, though De perched upon a horse, and he felt that Gruchy lay flat on his face, with the ne could have followed so spirited a moon beating down on his neck and on leader with all the spirit he himself had left but for the thing that had

a dark blob there in much the same place as that other mortal wound, been done before his eyes that night. which now puzzled Tom no more. There was no more, however, to be said. They were at the farm. CHAPTER XXI. At the gate (not the gate of forme r presently appeared that Tom had scenes; this one lay east beyond the not traveled above a dozen miles stables) all dismounted but the little toward the sea he fancied he had general, who was to keep his saddle smelled at eighteen, but this he declined to believe until the gray man produced a tattered map and pricked out the positions with his hook. Tom then gave in, but climbed into De Gruchy's saddle with incomplete convictions upon the point. The delirium of his famished flight still magnified

as generals do. The others led their horses to the stables, and, while Walleye stalled them, Tom showed Slipper and the black his old lair. Another convict had succeeded him as groom, and in a few moments young Brummy was dragged forth by Peter Pindar. So far from offering any resistance, however, the obliging youth at once put himself at the bushrangers' disposal. His zeal and enthuslasm augured well for the other seventy in the huts. Under his eager guidance the watchman, Roberts, was immediately captured in his sleep beneath the bell, whereupon that official joined the enemy with no more demur than Brummy. Indeed, he went the length of shaking hands with the supposed Italian and personally thanking him for having come at last.

Hookey on his horse cut this profession short and drove both prisohers between the control of the same and the profession short and drove both prisohers between the control of the same and the profession short and drove both prisohers between the control of the same and the principal state of the down the same and the profession short and drove both prisohers between the profession short and drove both prisohers between the control of the above entitled calcuments of the doministrator of the above entitled estate asking for an order of the court permittion for head. Now's the time to show him your to stand by him in his hour of need. Now's the time to show him your gratitude. Stop! Stop! Not all of you at once!" And with his horse he stemmed a rush of zealous spirits who explained themselves in chorus as they unwillingly fell back.

"Stand by him?" cried one. "Get at him, you mean! Only give us the word and we'll take him off your hands"—

"And cut his throat"—

"And Nat's after"—

"And Nat's after"—

"And Nat's after"—

"And Nat's after"—

"And Now take the eight has being stated being submitted to the court, and it appearing by said petition of the Administrator of the above entitled estate asking for an order of the court, and it appearing by said petition that there is not sufficient personal estate time to show him your gratitude. Stop!

Stop! Not all of you at once!" And with his horse he stemmed a rush of zealous spirits w convict had succeeded him as groom, both the time and the space which it had covered. Thinking of the murder done before his eyes and looking on these villains whom he had joined, he could half believe he was delirious still. The incredible thing was that in two more hours he would be back upon that hated spot whither he had sworn But a man's fate was stronger than his will, as it seemed to Tom during that midnight ride when not care, but

a very merciful sort of fatalism, sat behind the reckless horseman. Fatalistic he had felt before, but never with sion short and drove both prisoners bethis result. Hitherto the feeling had fore him toward the overseer's hut, only deepened his despair, whereas which Tom had already pointed out. now it was his single solace. It con-The latter was now left in charge of soled him for the horrors he had countenanced that night, it even nerved him for what deeds he must himself "I thought he was gov'nor?" Tom

heard Roberts remark. In the law's eye he was a branded "The less you think the better," remurderer as it was. He seemed des-

derstand. True man, eh?" by which term Hookey meant its opposite. "I doubt it," said Roberts.

"Then all the worse for him!" Ginger's hut was but a few yards from the bell. Tom heard them enter and neid his breath. The door was shut, and then he heard no more. In the main building all was dark

and still. He watched it keenly, with his ears, as it were, upon the hut behind. At last the door reopened, and he heard the striking of lucifers, accompanied by another sound, as of something being dragged from the hut. He looked round, and it was Ginger's and gagged.

Tom drew a deep breath. He had expected worse.

Brummy and Roberts were now dispatched to the convicts' huts to tell the rest at the right moment what was happening and how they would all be free men within an hour if they abstained from interference, but dead men if they did not. Then the black crept up close to the palisade, while Hookey rode to one side and the other two hid behind trees. Meanwhile the overseer's but was beginning to crackle. and all at once Tom saw the shadow of his tree leap out toward the paisade upon a ground of glaring red. "Ring! Ring!" cried Hookey from

the very sharpest memories of floating | his horse, Almost with his words a terrific clang, clang, clang, burst out from top hat that Hookey wore above his, amid the red gum's leaves, and almost with the alarm a couple of white fig-

hind the palisade. Tom stood and watched like an actor who has forgotten he is on the stage

through the gate and a black one glide in front of it next moment. He saw Nat Sullivan stop running, selze his father's arm and point excitedly toward the burning hut. He saw them both about to turn when the son was lifted off his legs as though he had been an infant, and there were coal black arms entwined about his night shirt and snow white teeth grinning over his shoulder. Hookey Simpson galloped up. Slipper and Wall-eye darted from behind their trees. All had pistols in their hands and masks upon their faces, and the masks reminded

a looker on at all. He had vaguely wondered why the bell was still ringing. Now he let go the rope and ran a step or two forward, but they were four to two without him, and the four were armed, and

one himself and had no business to be

watch he must.

The Sullivans were being dragged or driven backward upon the palisade. Tom could make little of the swaying, struggling group, for Hookey Simpson brought up the rear on his horse, but through the animal's legs he had glimpses of fluttering calico and sparkling spurs as the glare grew more watch he must. kling spurs as the glare grew more and more intense. It was now as light the as day. Every board of the main building stood out in abnormal detail against the blackened sky, while the

shadows of the palisade made a glowing gridiron of the yard within.

The scuffle was over. Something was happening that Tom could not see when a flake of redhot bark lit upon when a flake of redhot bark lit upon his ear. He was face about in time to see the roof of the burning hut tumble in and a column of clean flame spout high into the night. And there was sequent years have been paid by the plaintiff upon said above described real property, to-wit: the wretched Ginger writhing in his bonds within reach of the burning

you, let's see you show it. You'll only cut things shorter if you don't. What chance do you think you've got? Ah, it's too late to look that way now,

you old fool!" The doctor's eyes were on his convict huts; the men were pouring out of IN the Superior Court of the State of Washing ton in and for Thurston county. them pellmell. Hookey Simpson wheeled his horse and rode up to them with a magnificent air, dropping his reins

"The bluidy tyrants!"

Hookey waved them back. "Is there a single man who'll take the coves' side in the time of need? the bell rope, with a last order not to hold his mouth!"

Not a convict stirred. "Then," said Hookey, "you leave the rest to us, and don't you interfere. Main streets, Olympia, Wash. torted Hookey. "But about this over-seer of yours—a ticket of legve. I un-

blood be on your own heads!" And he cantered back to the palisade with his chimney pot hat on the side of his head and the hook stuck rakishly against his ribs.

Tom ran up to him and caught hi "The women have got into the store

-- I saw the light-it's where they keep the guns -will you leave them to me?" "No bloodshed, then; they're scarce!" "I'll make them prisoners." "And none of your larks just ret!" Tom was gone. With a horse pistol

in each hand, he dashed into the store and caught Peggy and Miss Sullivan in the act of lifting down the fowling "Surrender!" he roared. Miss Sullivan shricked and hid her

"Shoot a woman if you dare," said

face. Peggy advanced.

she. "'Tis me that dares ye!"

"Peggy!" he whispered. "I am here to save you both. Do as I tell you, and make her do the same I'm here to save you both!" he repeated aloud. "There are horses in the stathem. Undo those outer doors, Peggy." ders He had said her name by accident. She gave him a warning glance. And now Miss Sullivan stood her ground steadfastly and, having recovered that



Don't you interfere. You're dead men if you do." mettle which was in the blood, refused to move until she knew what they were going to do with her father and

brother. "Nothing at all," said Tom. "It's you they're after." "Me, indeed!"

"The two of you," said Tom. "The men are all right, they've given in, but ev'll carry off th can though not if I know it" By this time Peggy O'Brien had unfastened the great outer doors at which the store drays could unload without entering the yard. In another moment Tom had both women out in the open,

with the front west angle of house between them and the palisade. Even the burning hut was thus hidden from their view. Yet the voice of Hookey Simpson sounded dreadfully close. "You shall lay it on yourselves!" he was shouting out. "Let the man who had the last fifty come forward and lay on the first."

"That's me," said Macbeth's voice. "Gi'e us the cat!" There was none

To be Continued.

N the Superior Court of the State of Washing ton for Thurston county. Tom that he was looking on through W. A. McKenna, Plaintiff, vs. M. C. Sherlock and William N. Gilmore and John A. Gilmore, and all persons unknown, if any, having or claim ing an interest in and to the hereinafter described real property. Defendants, Notice and Summons

State of Washington: To the above defendant

Certificate Number. June 13th, 1906, amount \$9.86, for year 1905. June 3d, 1907, amount \$12.40, for year 1906.

bonds within reach of the burning walls and with the flame of a fallen brand licking the very camp bed on which he lay.

This time Tom did not forget his part. He ignored it and had the overseer out of harm's way in a few seconds. In two more his mask was among the rest and his pistol pointed with the others at the two white figures that now stood side by side against the palisade, with torn nightshirts and clinched fists, defenseless, but still defiant.

"Now, look you here, my fine gentlemen!" exclaimed Hookey from his saddle. "If you've got any sense between you, let's see you show it, You'll with the camp and with the camp and the complaint of said plaintiff and serve a copy of your answer on the undersigned, attorney for plaintiff, at his office below stated, or pay the amount due, together with interest and costs. In case you fail so to do, judgment will be rendered herein foreclosing the lien of said taxes and costs against each parcel of said real property for the sums and amounts due upon and charged against each, for said taxes, interest and found against trespectively as provided by law, and as prayed in plaintiff's complaint now on file in this cause and Court.

W. A. McKENNA.

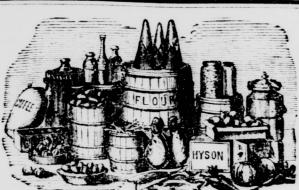
MILLION & HOUSER, Attorneys for Plaintiff. Office address: 916 Alaska Building, Seattle Vashington. lashington.
First publication dated Oct. 18, 1907.

In the matter of the Estate of Joe and Mary Long

Done in open Court this 29th day of October,

First publication, Nov. 1, 1907. U. LINN, Judge.

Attorney at Law Byrne Block, corner of Fourth and



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 $I^{\rm N}$ the Superior Court of the State of Washing ton for Thurston county. Susie Jane Winkle, Plaintiff, Jesse Henry Winkle, Defendant.

The State of Washington to the said Jesse Henr Winkle, Defendant.

sixty days after the date of the first publication of this summons, to wit: within sixty days after the 25th day of October, 1907, and defend the above entitled action in the above entitled court, and serve a copy of your answer upon the underdersigned attorney for the plaintiff, at his office below stated; and in case of your failure so to do, judgment will be rendered against you according to the demand of the complaint which has been fled with the Clerk of said Court. This is an action for divorce brought by the plaintiff against the defendant alleging that defendant has committed the crime of murder which is against the plaintiff and has failed to support her, and has treated her in a cruel and inhuman manner.

[Signed]

[Signed]

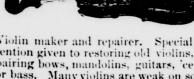
[GORDON MACKAY,
Attorney for Plaintiff.

[Rostoffice Address: Room 3. Elks.' Block

Postoffice Address: Room 3. Elks' Block First publication, Oct. 25, 1907.

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