Continued from 1st page

der; don't forget that in your theoriz-"I don't; it is nothing, a mere coincidence, but one of those curious joining of lines and crossing of paths, which it not carefully avoided confuse the judgment and mislead you-which makes

"Wessing would have the same motive for getting Templeton out of the

way?" "But he didn't do the deed; and besides, Wessing is not a man who would pursue any point to death and who could do deliberate murder; a glance is sufficient to determine that-he is weak. On the contrary, Fountain would. We have both agreed to that."

"But," said Tom, "is not your theory fanciful? There is a great deal to suppose. I admit that, so far as Fountain is concerned, it is plausible."

"Only plausible above the rest because you have certain ascertained facts or statements of himself and Flora to reason upon. Fountain is proposing to seek a fortune; Pierson's fortune lies waiting to be sought; Fountain inquires here about Pierson's papers, and admits to Flora that he called upon me in reference to that enterprise. Flora is horror stricken at the idea of his coming to me, who saw the murderer at a distance, and who, pretended to see more than I did. These are the connecting links which make the reasoning seem plausible as to Fountain. You seem to stumble over the idea that there must have been some knowledge of Wessing by Fountain, and of Fountain by Wessing."

"I confess it." "It is not necessary to the truth of my theory that they should not have knowledge or that they should. See here: Suppose Fountain did know of Wessing, which I wholly doubt, and that he was an illegitimate son also, it would make no difference in his enterprise of killing Templeton. It would be the legitimate heir he would have to be rid of before he or any other illegitimate heir could pretend to have a claim on the unclaimed

"There is a true reasoning in that. But you have no basis for supposing there was any abandonment of Templeton's mother.' Holbrook had been pacing up and

down as he was thus reasoning. Upon Tom's remark he turned quickly around and bringing his hands together with a resounding whack he exclaimed:

"Yes, by Heaven, I have! Mrs. Templeton told me that her father had left her on her mother's death to the care of an aunt, and went to Philadelphia; that subsequently a rumor of his marriage had reached them, but was never verified. That was after they had heard of his death abroad." "The facts in this case come out slow-

ly." said Tom. "The line of inquiry to follow is the Pierson line. Why not push your inquiries with Mrs. Templeton? See if it is not possible to connect the Templetons with Pierson." "I'll do it, and at once. You'll go

with me too, won't you?" "Yes, I'll go with you, and would be glad to."

"But haven't we already ground enough to begin a judicial inquiry?" "No: wait until I have established the identification of Fountain with the man who purchased the clothes. "I'll go about it now and then meet you."

"But I say, Tom, if Fountain don't own the gold button, who does?" "I'll be hanged if I can tell—that is

of all cases." Tom hurried off to his friend, the leader writer, who had undertaken to obtain a surreptitious portrait of Foun-

"Well, how did you make out?" asked

"First rate. I got two views of him-

profile and full face." He took them from his desk. Tom inspected them closely. "Capital," he said, "perfect pictures."

"What are you going to do with them?" asked the leader writer. "Pardon me," said Tom, "I am in a

desperate hurry, and if I do not wait to explain and thank you for them you will excuse me, I know.' Then he went to the clothing store and found the clerk.

"What kind of time did you have on your clambake?"

"Bang up," said Tom. "See here, you recollect my asking you if you could identify the man who bought that suitthe man outside of U. S. T.'s?"

"Yes." "Well, here's the man I suspect. Do The clerk took the photographs and

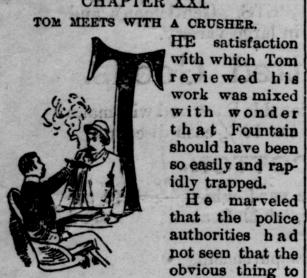
examined them carefully. Tom waited in an agony of impatience, his heart beating with such throbs that he thought the clerk must

surely hear it. Finally the clerk said: "I am certain-positive, that is the

"Good," said Tom. "He'll find his little joke turned upon him. Thank you. I'll tell you all about it shortly. I'll come here to tell you for your kindness." He hurried out of the store.

"The coil is finally wound about him. Fountain, my boy, there is a surprise in store for you. In two days' time, my gentle lad, your name will be the best known in New York town." He hurried off to meet Holbrook.

CHAPTER XXI. TOM MEETS WITH A CRUSHER.



that the police authorities had not seen that the obvious thing to do was to discover at once where the clothes worn by the murderer were pur-

It was true, he admitted, that he had had an advantage in determining who the purchaser was, through Holbrook's acquaintance with Flora Ashgrove, but why had not the detectives of the regu-

lar force found out, as he had done, where the clothes had been bought? He was in high glee over his discovery, and much pleased with himself. The facts were indisputable, and were to be

recognized at a glance. There was the conversation between Flora and Fountain on the veranda at Newport, and there was the identifica-

tion of Fountain with the man who had purchased the one suit which had not been bought by the U. S. T's. While these were not conclusive, still they were sufficient to justify the immediate arrest of Fountain, when the facts necessary for proofs before the jury could be easily brought out by judicious inquiry.

To construct the chain of evidence which would convict Fountain in court was work for the authorities, not for him. He had detected the criminal, and that was all that could be demanded of

him, and all that he had set out to do. It was thus filled with triumph that he sought Holbrook to consult with him as to the next step—the placing of all bitterly.

the facts before the district attorney. To his cirprise no less than to his indicate the finds, when I want a man who is in possession such knowledge as you know I am."

"And pray, what may that be?" his airprise no less than to his indigna-

further in the matter. So long as there was a question of glad she is out of it." doubt involved in the investigation, Holbrook had been est and energetic.

but now, when all question of doubt had vanished-when the identification was complete, he hesitated, "baulked," as brook. "Our suspicions of Fountain

some one to do it."

been on a wrong scent."

"Let us have it, then."

"Well, what then?"

returned to the city."

in our effort."

"You have an idea, Tom."

"He won't talk to you."

"Well, I can try all the same."

CHAPTER XXII.

ANOTHER VISIT TO THE "HANDSOME

FLORA."

card, with the information that the lady

was not at home, he was not surprised

"If that means," he said to the ser-

vant, "that Miss Ashgrove is denying

herself to visitors this afternoon, please

say to the lady that Mr. Holbrook calls

upon business of the utmost importance

The servant went away a second time.

leaving him seated in the reception room,

and returned to say that the lady would

He did not wait long, for Flora, still

in morning toilet, followed the servant

closely. She was cold and haughty in

She saluted Mr. Holbrook, and with-

"I am not at home to any other callers,

She closed the door after her, and sat

down in such a position that the light

was upon Holbrook's face, while her

Holbrook to speak, turning upon him

Her manner conveyed that the call was

Holbrook felt it, and was stung by her

to be regarded as one purely of business.

manner. Upon her part she felt that the

blow she dreaded so much was about to

Holbrook accepted the situation, feel-

"I beg you will excuse my urgency,"

of etiquette or custom. The last time I

had the honor of calling upon you, the

conversation was wholly, if my memory

serves me, upon the then recent mur-

der of Mr. Templeton. I desire to renew

Flora visibly paled under this exor-

"The subject is not an agreeable one,

but I suppose you have a purpose in re-

"I have, and also a confession to

"A confession!" she repeated in sur-

"Yes, a confession. From your man-

ner and from your words at that time,

the Casino, where I met you some days

that you suspected Mr. Fountain of hav-

"The dreaded blow has fallen," she

thought, as she gasped out, her face

ghastly white, "but you did not know

"I learned who he was that night at

moan. "And yet he went to you the

next morning. Fool, fool, fool, that he

"That conclusion," continued Hol-

a cat does a mouse, "was strengthened

by the report of an interview between

da of your uncle's house at Newport."

Holbrook was struck with her great

beauty as she stood before him, burning

"No, Miss Ashgrove," he replied, quiet-

ly, "you wrong me. You are mistaken

in both conjectures. I neither spied on

you nor placed one on you. The report

came to me in my professional capacity,

after it was all over, and without my

wrong. I hasten to inform you that Mr.

"Did not!" The revulsion of feeling

was too great. She sank back in her

chair, and for a moment Holbrook

He started up hastily to go to her as-

hundred miles of Union square when

"And why do you come to me with all

Having repossessed herself, she took

refuge in haughtiness, while her manner

She made Holbrook angry, and it was

"You will pardon me, Miss Ashgrove,

I hope, if I remark that your tone and

manner are particularly offensive to me,

and neither wise nor just. It is far from

my purpose to descend so low as to

such contempt, whatever you may feel,

[To be continued]

with difficulty he could control himself.

Fountain did not commit the deed."

with scorn, and he admired her.

ing committed the murder."

the Casino," he replied calmly.

him: he told me so."

swept over her.

spy upon us?"

ing that in the end he must win.

dium. She replied:

newing it."

out waiting for a return, she said to the

and of unusual interest to her."

see him in a few moments.

no matter who they may be."

with a polite look of inquiry.

or disconcerted.

ROM the manner

in which Flora

had received him

on the night he

had met her at

the Casino, Hol-

brook had no rea-

son to suppose

his visit would be

met with much

the servant re-

turned after he

had presented his

cordiality.

was a reason for it."

was that reason?"

I've an idea.

"Oh, dismiss that idea," replied Hol-

were caused wholly from our belief that

"But she didn't think so without there

"You're right there, Tom. Now what

"To find that out would put us on the

"See. The Ashgrove girl thinks Foun-

tain did the murder. She hasn't told him

of her belief, nor won't-you remember

the conversation. Now, she still labors

under that belief. You can go to her

and earn her undying gratitude by dis-abusing her mind of that error."

"In her joy at finding that the object

of her love is not a guilty man, she will

tell you her reason for supposing he was."

"Yes, and besides, she'll tell you who

"Surely. But she is still in Newport."

"No," said Tom, "I saw in this morn-

ing's papers that the Witherspoons have

"Then I'll go to her this very day."

was the owner of the diamond button.'

right track again. By Jove, Holbrook,

Tom said, "right at the finish." The fact that Flora Ashgrove would be Flora thought Fountain had himself inevitably drawn into the matter dis- done the deed. If her manner and words turbed Holbrook greatly. While all the did not mean this, they meant nothing. tenderness with which he had formerly No, the 'handsome Flora' herself has regarded her was wholly dissipated, still truth always so much stranger than ficit seemed a horrible thing to him, that she should be dragged to the witness stand and compelled to give the evidence which would send to the gallows the man she had shown she so deeply, and even wildly, loved. He shrank from the idea that he should be instrumental in putting her in such a position.

With these sentiments Tom could not, or at least would not, sympathize. It might be hard for her, but it was hard also for Annie Templeton that her brother should be struck down and killed, and it was one of the inevitable consequences of crime that the innocent suffered no less than the guilty, and while it was unfortunate that Miss Ashgrove was in the position in which she was, yet justice must be done. To all of this argument Holbrook had

no reply, and he realized he could make none. In the end, however, he gave a reluctant consent that everything should be laid before the district attorney, but he positively refused to go with Tom to that official. If he appeared at all in the matter, it should only be as an unwilling witness, to tell how his suspicions of Fountain had been aroused, and he sincerely hoped that even that much would | former suspicions, and ask his assistance not be required of him. So Tom was compelled to go alone. On his way he dismissed Holbrook's scruples as fanciful to the last degree, and busied himself with the order of the narrative which he was to submit to the prosecuting officer. On entering the office he saw the door of the private room was closed, and he was about to send in his card, when a

voice called out from an adjoining room: "Hallo, Tom! Come in. Where have you been this month of Sundays?" Tom passed into the room and saw an assistant of the district attorney, in the center of a group of his fellow deputies."

"Is the chief engaged," asked Tom after salutations. "Yes," was the reply, "but only for a short time. Come in; I was just telling the boys some of my adventures while yachting. We were out in Teddy Brabam's yacht-only a small party, Jack Hanshaw, Fred Cox, Harry Fountain

"Who? Fountain?" "Yes, Harry Fountain. Do you know im? A fine fellow."

"What Fountain?" asked Tom, somewhat interested: "Foundin of the Union and the Lambs-athlete." "The same. Why?" "Oh, nothing particular. When was

"Oh, let me see. We were out the 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th of last month We went on board the 14th at night, and sailed early the next morning."

"Of August," said Tom, with sudden

alarm. "Hold on; where were you on the 17th?" "We ran into Greenport bay, about 9 the extreme, but none the less wearied o'clock at night, under the brightest and anxious. moon"-

"You are sure of that date?" queried Tom earnestly. "Why, yes. Certainly. What's the matter with you?" "This is important. You've made no

"Mistake, no. Here's my diary with the entry. See," and he held it up for own was in the shadow. She waited for Tom to read "For heaven's sake!" cried Tom, "let

one of the puzzles in this most puzzling | us get this straight. When did that murder in Union square occur?" "Ask Jim there; it's his case." "You mean Templeton's?" asked the

one referred to. "On the morning of the eighteenth, an hour after midnight." "Great heavens!" cried Tom. They all stared at him.

He took the photographs out of his pocket and handed them to the first speaker. "Was this the man-the Fountain who

was with you?" "The very same. These are good pictures of him?" "Was he never away from you during | it "

the trip?" "Never, from the time he joined us on the fourteenth." Tom stood like one rooted to the spot.

In the meantime the others looked upon him amazed. Finally Tom said: "I do not think I want to see the dis-

trict attorney after all." He turned on his heel without a word and walked out, leaving them wonder-

ing at his strange manner and questions. "He's been drinking," he heard one and subsequently from your manner at "One would suppose he thought Founafterwards, I arrived at the conclusion

tain had committed that murder," from He paid no heed, but passed on and

met with a distressful blow of misfor-He walked along the street dazed, unheedful of all about him. Without knowing just how he had gotten there

he found himself in Broadway, opposite the postoffice. His emotions were difficult to analyze. Heartfelt gratitude and thankfulness that the story had been told him before he had gone in to the district attorney possessed him, but dominating every

other sentiment was his feeling of keen and bitter disappointment. His quest had ended in failure, his triumph had turned to ashes. He made his way hurriedly to Holbrook. The lawyer was engaged with a client, and Tom paced the outer office in a fever of disappointment, thankfulness, humiliation and even anger. How could he have been such an idiot as to have supposed Fountain could have been guilty of such a crime? he asked himself,

and then in the most illogical way he found himself growing angry with Fountain for going off on that yachting trip, and thus making it impossible for hir to have committed the deed. Unable to contain himself longer, he

sent his card, on which was scribbled followed and watched. This, I say, con-"Important. All the fat's in the fire," to firmed the suspicions and strengthened Holbrook. my conclusions, but I desire to say to Holbrook came out immediately. you now that both of us have been He looked wonderingly at Tom, who

bore the visible traces of his crushing de-"What's the matter, man?" asked Hol-

"Harry Fountain didn't commit the murder.

thought she would swoon. Holbrook could not have suppressed sistance, but she waved him back, and his surprise if he had desired, nor his after a supreme effort regained control evident relief at the information. That increased Tom's bitterness. of herself. "Why?" asked Holbrook. "Do they

know who did it?" "How do you know, then, that he the deed was done."

"He was not within a hundred miles of Union square when the deed was

Holbrook told him to wait a moment was an assumption of extreme indifferand he would dismiss his client at once. This he did speedily, and calling Tom in made him tell all that had occurred. There was silence at the conclusion.

After a moment Tom said: "We are just where we were ten days ago. We've been on a false scent." "No," said Holbrook, "not quite. There is the motive we reasoned out this | threaten a lady, but prudence should morning. We must now follow up the | suggest to you that it is not wise to show

Pierson inquiry." "Until we get near the finish, when I toward a man who is in possession of

"Be reasonable, Tom. You know it tion, he found the lawyer loath to go was a hard thing to bring Flora Ashgrove into the matter, and I am sincerely "Unless," said Tom, "Fountain hired

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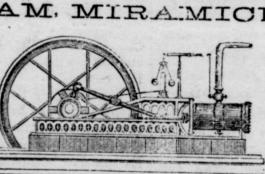
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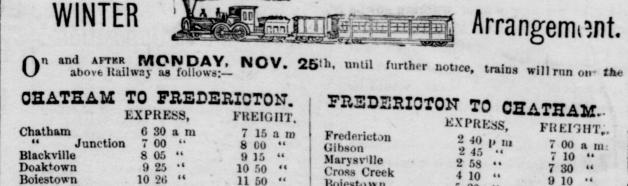
yourself and Mr. Fountain on the veran-CHATHAM RAILWAY She sprang to her feet, nerved by the strong tide of anger and contempt that WINTER 1389-90 "And were you low enough, base enough, to spy upon us, or to place a

N and after MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1871., Trains will run on this Railway i connection with the Intercolonial Railway, daily, (Sunda nights excepted) as follow LOCAL TIME TABLE. No 1 EXPRESS. No.3 ACCOM'DATION EXPRESS. ACCOM'DATION. Leave Chatham. Leave Chatham

12.18 a.m. 6.05 2.15 " 9.15 Arrive Bathurst Arrive Chatham Junc., 10.30 Leave " Campbellton. 3.28 3.58 11.00 GOING SOUTH. LOCAL TIME TABLE. No. 2 EXPRESS. No.4 ACCOM'PATION KXPRESS ACCOM'DATION knowledge that Mr. Fountain was being 11.30 a m | Leave Chatham, 4.40 am 11.30 a m Chatham June n, Arrive, Arrive Moncton 7 30 a m 3.25 p m 11.10 7,25 St John

> Trains leave Chatham on Saturday night to connect with Express going South, which runs through to St. John, and Halifax and with the Express going North which lies over at Campbellton.
>
> Close connections are made with all passenger Trains both DAY and NIGHT on the Inter-Pullman Sleeping Cars run through to St. John on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and to Halifax Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, and from St. John, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays and from Halifax Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The above Table is made up on I. C. Railway standard time, which is 75th meridian time. All the local Trains stop at Nelson Station, both going and returning, if signaled. All freight for transportation over this road, if above Fourth (4th) Class, will be taken delivery at the Union Wharf, Chatham, and forwarded free of Truckage Custom House Entry or other charge

"How—he is innocent?" "Yes, innocent. He was not within a NORTHERN AND



Boiestown

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Blackville

Chatham Junction

10 35 ..

11 35 44

1 20 pm 3 05

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measure the width.

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