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white heat of indignation and disgust.

If I had been less angry I could not have suppressed a smile at his appearance: he sat where had fallen, rubbing his head, which had come into pretty sharp contact | raised her lips to my ear, and whispered with the edge of the table in his descent, rapidlyand staring about him with an expression of bewilderment irresistably ludicrous.

"You might 'a stopped at some at short of knocking a man down, I should think," said the son, looking at me with a lower- pull to test it; "and now I wish you a ing face as he assisted his father to rise. "I didn't knock him down then, but I will if he raises his hand against the girl And, smiling to the last, he disappeared. again while I am in the house."

The landlord slowly raised himself up; your door." his face was livid and there was a curious ambent gleam in his pale eyes as he glanced at me after I had uttered those words. But the expression passed in a moment, and he forced his lips to their customary smile, as he said brushing douche of cold water-wide awake, and the sand from his coat-

pered, Reuben. I excuse that; it is a honesty? Had I fallen among theives-or fault of my own. I bear no malice-no

did," I retorted contemptously; and turning my back on him, I addressed Joyce, who was leaning against the wall, pressing her thin fingers to her temples.

lass," I said in an under tone, bending over her. "Let me look at the place. Sit down."

I gently removed her fingers, and cold hardly restrain my indignation when I saw the mark on her temple, which in a few reconnoise my quarters. minutes would be a livid bruise. I said nothing more however, but forced her down on to a seat, and, seeing that she was faint and half-stunned, called for a glass of water, which the son, at his father's I waited for the railway train, bidding, procured, and handed to me with a sneer. I put it to her lips, moistened her forehead, and chaffed her cold hands; she sat meanwhile passive, silent, and apparently apathetic, but I could feel her trembling as I touched her, and when she 'Oh, Jack; oh dear old Jack,' she cried, rose to move away her dark eyes were raised to my face with a look that rendered thanks superfluous. What eyes they were! Never had any others so thrilled and haunted me.

"If my room is ready, I will go to bed,' said I, putting away my chair.

My host and his son were busy looking for something in a cupboard-something they could not find, apparently, for I heard them muttering, as if disappointed, and the latter shut the cupboard door with a grunt of vexation.

dy-and-water, sir ?" asked the landlord.

"No," I answered, curtly, "I want nothing more. Show me to my room." press the matter.

up the gentleman's things to the best room. of worry rise into mountains of anxiety, You'll have a capital bed, sir," he added, and as a result—sick headache, dizziness, addressing me, as the girl emerged from the shadow again in her silent, ghostly permanently, or relieve temporarily. way,-" as good a one as there is anywhere. I never knew any one who slept in the Green Bed, complain of a restless night, or coax it by a mild pleasant way. Now then, girl, don't fall asleep. Don't you see the gentleman's waiting?"

candle, led the way up a narrow, dark although a whole vial costs but 25 cents. flight of stairs opening from the kitchen, I following with my pack, and the landlord bringing up the rear.

On the landing above were three doors. Passing the two first, we entered the third at the end of the passage. It was a room of better appearance than I had expected. True, the walls were white-washed, the well-worn carpet only half covered the official and dipiomatic dinners there is floor, the furniture was scanty, including, besides the bed, only one chair, a dressing duty it is to rise and break up the entertable, and a washhand-stand; still every- tainment. thing looked fresh and clean, and there was an air of homely country comfort about it that pleased me. The solitary he had been told by a confused senator chair was a capacious armed one covered that it would be expected that he, the with chintz-one of those easy, old-fashioned chairs which seem to invite one with | to depart. open arms to take a seat in their soft laps -and the bed, an antiquated four-poster with faded green hangings trimmed with expected to follow, not precede, the royal yellow braid, promised to justify all the party in leaving the house. eulogiums of its proprietor. With its snowy sheets, large square pillow, and warm knitted coverlet, it looked a most inviting resting-place for a weary man. The very sight of it appeared to act on me as a soporific; I felt so drowsy that I cold hardly keep my eyes open as I glanced round the room.

"Have you everything you require, sir? Can I do anything more for you?" inquired my host, who stood near the door with his head a little on one side, slowly rubbing his hands, and regarding me with his bland perpetual smile.

"Nothing more. Call me in the morn-

idg at about six." "Very good, sir. There's a lock to your door and a bolt also," he added, as he was passing through.

"All right. Good night;" and, stretching my arms with a tremendous yawn, I transferred the pistols from my pocket to

the dressing-table before the window. Just then the landlord, who was not

fairly out of the room, returned. "I beg your pardon, sir; I want to see

him by the arm, swung him away with if the window's properly fastened. If it such force that, not being prepared for it, ain't, it rattles when the wind blows;" he staggered and fell heavily to the floor. and, calling to Joyce, who was outside, to "Take that for your brutality!" I cried | hold the light, he leaned over the dressingout of breath with the exertion, and in a table, fumbling with the hasp of the case-

> As I stood aside, unfastening my necktie, the girl, glancing at her master, whose back was turned, took a step towards me,

"Den't go to bed yet, and don't lock your door."

"There's all-fast now," said her master the next moment giving the casement a good night, sir, and sound sleep-but that you are sure to have in the Green Bed." "Don't go to bed yet, and don't lock

I repeated the sentence mechanically, standing astounded where they had left me, with my neck-tie in my hand.

I was wide awake now-that mysterious whisper had roused me as effectually as particularly uncomfortable. What did it "The gentleman is a trifle hasty-tem- mean? Did the girl suspect her master's worse? I turned hot and cold at the thought. Involuntarily my hand went "It would be all the same to me if you | into the ! reast-pocket of my coat; and I drew a breath of relief at finding the precious pocket-book still safe. But the girl's warning, if warning it was, was unintelligible; what did she mean by bidding me "I fear you are badly hurt, my poor not to lock my door? I puzzled over it BUILDERS' HARDWARE, till I was completely bewildered and more uncomfortable than ever; then the thought occurred to me that there might be another concealed entrance to the room, and taking up the candle, I proceeded to

[CONCLUDED NEXT WEEK.]

Only Once.

It was a pitiful mistake, An error sad and grim The light was low and dim.

It came at last, and from the car, There stepped a dainty dame, And looking up and down the place, She straight unto me came.

And kissed me as she spake; Then looked again, and frightened cried, 'Oh what a bad mistake.

I said, 'Forgive me, maiden fair, That I am not your Jack, And as regards the kiss you gave, I'll straitway give it back.'

And since that night I've often stood On the platform lighted dim; But only once in a man's whole life Do such things happen to him.

It was Ben Johnson, we believe, who, when asked Mallock's question, "Is life "Won't you have another glass of bran- worth wing?" replied, "that depends on the liver." And Ben Johnson doubtless saw the double point to the pun. The liver active-quick-life rosy, every-He muttered something, but did not | thing bright, mountains of trouble melt like mountains of snow. The liver slug-"Light a bed-candle, Joyce, and carry ish-life dull, everything blue, molehills constipation. Two ways are open. Cure Take a pill and suffer, or take a pill and get well, shock the system by an overdose,

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When Dom Pedro, then Emperor of Brazil, was entertained at the White House, Emperor, should be the last of the guests

The President's wife, however, informed her other guests that they would be

The result was that no one dared to go for fear of a breach of etiquette. But at 3 o'clock in the morning a tired woman pretended illness, and the deadlock was

Great is etiquette, but common sense is, sometimes allowable.

Stub Ends of Thought.

Satan always has rooms to let in his

Faith may move mountains, but it takes a mule to move a canal boat.

You can't tell the size of a donkey by the com, ass of his bray. Never is ripened to-morrow.

Habit rides us with whip and spur. A woman's complexion isn't always what it looks like.

The devil loves the beautiful. The lest talker is the person who lets you do three-fourths of it. Kisses are emotional rosebuds.

Economy is backing 75 cents against a dollar and making it win. The flowers never know how beautiful

The nan who prays for rain is always caught without an umbrella.

long life by a judicious use of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. The signs of weakness are "shortness of breath," pains in the chest and back, a persistent cough, feverishness, and raising of blood. All or either of these symptoms may indicate weak lungs, and should have

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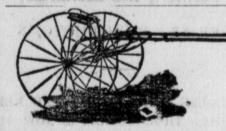
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ANNUAL STATEMENT

HTTT

ASSURANCE SOCIETY

Outstanding Assurance Dec. 31, 1889, New Assurance Written in 1889, Premium Income in 1889, \$631,016,666 175,264,100 25,357,528 5,035,765 nterest and Other Income, 30,393,288 11,842,858 Total Income, Payments to Policy holders,

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